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Caymanian Times

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 Issue No 746

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Sports page



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50¢



Delta Returns



► Premier Wayne Panton, with Deputy Premier Chris Saunders, Parliamentary Secretary Dwayne Seymour, and Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan join in celebrating Delta's return, with Delta staff Kevin

Success for hospitality careers fair

By Christopher Tobutt

The long line of Caymanians and residents waiting to register outside the Ritz-Carlton Ballroom showed just how keen they are to get jobs in the Ritz-Carlton, Kimpton Seafire or Hampton by Hilton, the three hotels under Dart's portfolio. Now that covid restrictions are being lifted and the big airlines have resumed regular flights, demand at Cayman's top three hotels is taking off, and that means that they quickly need plenty of new, high-caliber staff.



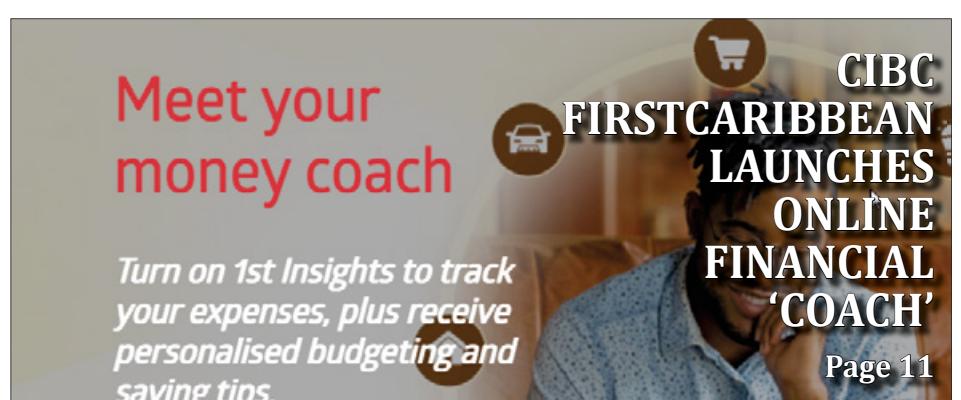
► One of the applicants is helped by a staff member of the Ritz-Carlton

More than 250 people registered. Inside the ballroom they were able to walk around and choose the one of the areas of hotel work they liked the best, with staff representing the different hotel departments, while a huge screen showed more

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► (L-R) Marc Langevin, Jackie Doak, Steven Andre, and Lee Parry, Manager of the Hampton by Hilton hotel



► Deputy Premier, Hon Chris Saunders

Success for hospitality careers fair

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than 80 different job titles representing well over 100 new jobs. "I'm looking for a job in retail," said Pamela, one of the applicants. "I have never worked in a hotel before." Lots of those who were applying were looking for a career-change.

Dart's President of Business Development, Jackie Doak said, "The turnout today

has really exceeded our expectations. The tourism industry and hospitality particularly have always had about a 30 percent Caymanian employment rate, but now it's time for the country and the hospitality companies and restaurants, to really start demonstrating the value of a career in tourism. It's a blessing that we are seeing such high levels of guests who want to come back to the Cayman Islands, but on

the other side we don't have the labor pool to welcome them all back, so we're constrained in the amount of guests that we can take, so are working very well with the ministers of labor and tourism in terms of how to get the labor pool to the level it needs to be, and also to get Caymanians engaged in the hospitality industry, and raise those percentages."

Deputy Premier Chris Saunders said, "At the end of the day once Caymanian people are able and willing to work they should be given the first opportunity. This confirms the government's position, that we know there are many people out there that are able to work and looking for work, and we want to give them an opportunity. Businesses need to demonstrate that they are willing to give Caymanians an opportunity. A work permit is a privilege, it is not a right, and they need to understand that as in any other country, the local population has to be given first opportunity."

General Manager for the Kimpton, Steven Andre talked about the kinds of people he was looking for. "Now that the island has opened up a little bit more and we are seeing the last of the major airline carriers coming back this month, we are looking for all the right people to help us continue. I think that The Seafire has established itself as a place with great customer service, so we want to find people who fit into that type of environment – they want to be high energy, customer-centric, they want to have a great relationship with their coworkers and help us achieve our goals."

Ritz Carlton General Manager Marc Langevin said, "I am very excited today. When we put our job fair together I was not confident on how many people would come, because we have done many job fairs over the last year or so, and not always having had the same success. Today it's a very different environment, our hotels are open therefore this will create more opportunity."

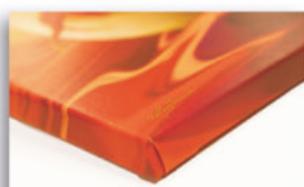
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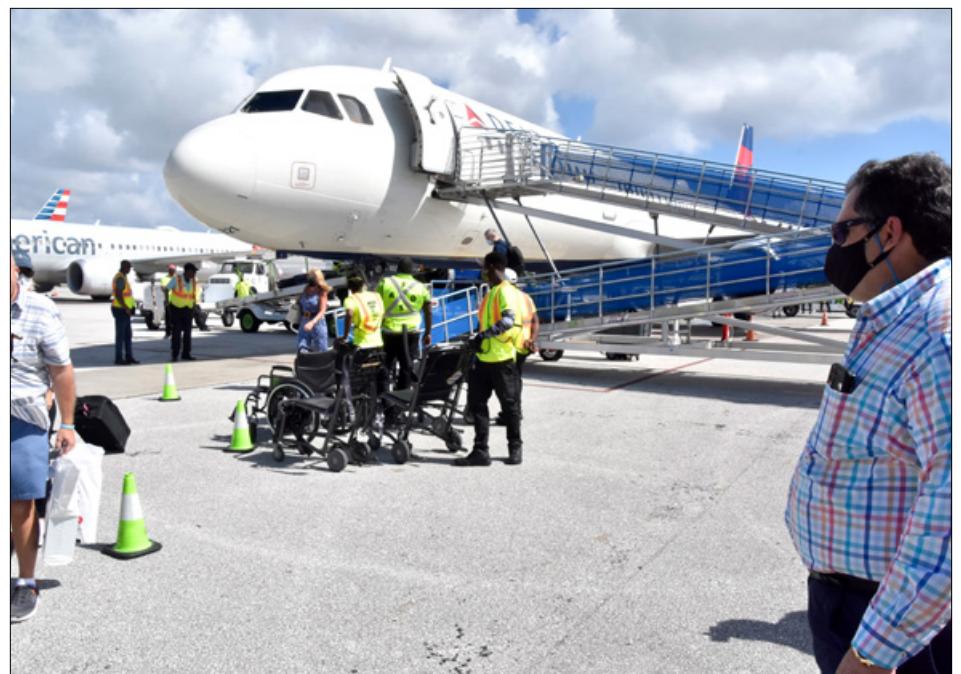
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► Delta Airlines return



► Premier Wayne Panton welcomes the passengers

Cayman welcomes back Delta Airlines

By Christopher Tobutt

Premier Hon Wayne Panton, Deputy Premier Hon Chris Saunders, and Tourism Minister Hon Kenneth Bryan all came to give the passengers stepping off the big Delta Airlines plane a warm Cayman welcome, after the traditional two-water cannon salute, at Owen Roberts International Airport on Saturday 5 March. It's only been a couple of weeks since United and American Airlines were welcomed back to Cayman, and happened on the same day as a huge tourism jobs fair was held at the Ritz Carlton. It all spelled out that Cayman's tourism is not only back-and-running, but beginning a shift into a higher gear.

Marva Reid, Delta's Operations Service Manager for Grand Cayman said, 'Today is the inaugural flight back to Grand Cayman after two years so we're very excited. From March till June we will be doing two flights a week, on Saturdays and Sundays. After June we will be doing daily flights, and of course when the winter season kicks in we will be offering many more flights pretty-much back to our regular schedule. Today the flight is coming in from Atlanta, Georgia, but we also offer services from Minneapolis and Detroit, plus there are occasional flights during the season from JFK. We are absolutely ecstatic to be back in Cayman today. It's important for our economy to have our visitors come in and turn back to a place

which they have enjoyed for many years,' she said.

'I'd just like to say thank you guys for coming out and welcome Delta back. It's been a long time coming we're certainly glad to be back,' said Delta's Country Manager, Kevin Bolen. 'We've always played an important part of the local community, and it's good to be back serving this community.'

Tourism Minister, Hon Kenneth Bryan said, 'Again this is another step in getting back to normal. I just had a wonderful story with a lady who was so excited to be back. She said when she first came to the Cayman Islands her husband proposed to her on the beach, and four days later they got married. And she's got a tattoo with

a Sir Turtle on her leg, just to show her commitment to the Cayman Islands. People really love the product, as a people as a country in respect to our environment and what we stand for, so I am so excited that we are really able to offer that product again.'

We are just excited as the PACT administration to get our environment loose enough that we can have a productive tourism product. And I think that we are going to have to go down the road of loosening it more and more as we get safer and more comfortable with living with covid. The numbers (of new infections) are going down, which gives us the comfort of being able to move forward.'

Statement from HE the Governor on strong Caribbean support for the UN General Assembly resolution regarding Ukraine

On 2 March 141 Countries voted in the United Nations deplored Russia's invasion of Ukraine and calling for an immediate withdrawal of Forces. Within our region, Cuba abstained but every other Caribbean country voted to deplore Russian aggression. Only 5 countries voted against (Russia, Belarus, North Korea, Eritrea and Syria).

First time in 40 years the 'Security Council' has referred a crisis to the Assembly and only the 11th time an emergency session of the UN General Assembly has been called since 1950. The initial General Assembly resolution was co-sponsored by our Caribbean neighbours: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago.

The situation in Ukraine is deeply worrying. As families shelter from rocket attacks, and

paratroopers drop on a Ukrainian city, and Tank columns are on the move, the number of refugees seem to be in the region of well over 1 million.

From our perspective in the Caribbean, it is worth acknowledging there were disturbing reports that suggested those with African or South Asian heritage or ethnicity were being discriminated against at the border. The UK Government - and others in this region - have received absolute assurances from the Ukrainian Government that this is not sanctioned and will not be tolerated, and that all will be treated equally.

The UK and all of us in Cayman support the Ukrainian people's right to choose their own destiny.

The UK has launched the largest package of sanctions in the UK's history - sanctions that we in Cayman have already brought into force. Cayman is supporting the international effort to cut

off funding for President Putin's war including banning aircrafts owned or operated by a person connected with Russia, or registered in Russia.

The Kremlin's unprovoked aggression has led the Russian people into a quagmire and, as demonstrated today, turned Russia into an international pariah. The world community now stands against them and in solidarity with Ukraine. The Russian government's attempt to conquer an independent state by force of arms, is an attack on the security and freedom of Europe but it goes far wider than that. It's an attack against the international order and its impacts, particularly if President Putin were to prevail, will be felt globally should dictators, and those who see themselves as the 'strong' set against weak neighbours, believe they can act with impunity.

We can all be proud of the Ukrainians who are resisting.



► His Excellency The Governor Martyn Roper

We are supporting in Cayman in the only way we can through the swift and effective imposition

of sanctions against those who wage war against democratic neighbours.

Caymanian Proud: Memories of Her Majesty

The Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage (MYSCH) is hosting two Platinum Jubilee Caymanian Proud events. Caymanian Proud: 'Memories of Her Majesty' will be held at the **Harquail Theatre, George Town on Wednesday, 9 March 2022, 9 a.m. – 12 noon** and at the **Aston Rutty Civic Centre, Cayman Brac on Friday, 18 March, 12 noon – 2 p.m.**

Both RSVP events are divided into two sessions. The first session – 'Official Memories of Her Majesty' will feature panelists who worked/work in government. The Grand Cayman event will include Speaker of the House, Hon. McKeeva Bush, Mrs. Zeta Mae Bodden, Ms Margely Reve, Mr. Lennon Christian, Ms Anita Ebanks and Mr. James Ryan. As well as talking about their personal recollections of The Queen's 1983 and 1994 visits, they will also share what was involved in the detailed planning and execution of the high-level state visits.

The second-half of both sessions dives into the 'People's Memories of Her Majesty,' which will draw on the general public's memories of the royal visits. Attendees who wish to share a particularly poignant recollection of seeing The Queen will be



► Her Majesty The Queen

invited to share these with the event's intergenerational audience.

Moderated by Mr. Roy Bodden and Pastor Alson Ebanks, 'Memories of Her Majes-

ty' are the second in the MYSCH's Caymanian Proud series, which explores topics relating to local culture, heritage, identity and shared history.

"We had an overwhelmingly positive response to our inaugural Caymanian Proud event: 'Memories of Yesteryear' and knew that we could build on that with 'Memories of Her Majesty'. This event will be interactive, with our audience contributing and learning about little-remembered facts from the Queen's most recent visit," said Minister for Culture & Heritage, Hon. Bernie Bush.

"Hundreds of people turned out to see Her Majesty and Prince Philip at the various points of interest they toured during the royal visit. It was a historic event and involved dozens of civil servants, who worked quietly behind the scenes to ensure that the visit went off smoothly," he added.

For further information and to RSVP, email: YSCH-Events@gov.ky no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday, 8 March. Seat is limited at both venues and masks are required.

Live streaming will also be available on CIGTV, the Cayman Islands Government FB and on YouTube. The general public and schools are invited to log in, watch, learn and enjoy.

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We encourage everyone to come out and support our young athletes as they attempt to qualify for the 2022 Cayman Islands' CARIFTA Team and a place in history.

Natalie Urquhart Honoured for Arts, Culture Contributions

National Gallery Director and Chief Curator, Mrs. Natalie Urquhart's outstanding contributions to arts and culture "in the Cayman Islands and the wider region" over more than 20 years have distinguished her as an extraordinary achiever in her field.

In recognition of her record, Her Majesty the Queen conferred on Mrs. Urquhart a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the 2022 New Year Honours.

Mrs. Urquhart thinks, feels, talks and writes about arts, culture and heritage, especially, with a passion that has characterised most of her years in the Cayman Islands' workplace.

She also excels in strategic planning, organisational leadership and revitalisation; and as the first professionally trained Caymanian art curator, has authored books, papers and articles, and led curatorial projects that have helped expand opportunities for arts and culture engagement in the community.

Mrs. Urquhart has the distinction of advising governments, organisations and bodies within the Cayman Islands, the Caribbean region, as well as international entities such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM). She has firmly se-

cured the Cayman Islands' presence and leadership on a number of international cultural initiatives and organisations.

In fact, as the first Caymanian President of the Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC) from 2017-2020 and present MAC board member, Mrs. Urquhart continues to strengthen links among Caribbean museums and heritage organisations, by fostering and promoting closer collaborations, training and networking opportunities amongst cultural and heritage sector professionals.

Notable among her myriad publications is her book titled *Art of the Cayman Islands*, a definitive tome, and the first formal outline, of local art history. Based on her curatorial research, the book examines the confluence of tradition, cultural heritage and collective memory that has impacted local contemporary art and artistic practice.

More importantly, the spin-off from the book was a series of exhibitions including *21st Century Cayman* (2010), *The Persistence of Memory* (2011), *Tidal Shift* (2015), *REVIVE – Contemporary Caymanian Craft* (2016); *Cross Currents* (2019), *Island of Women* (2020) and *Reimagined Futures* (2021).

Equally impressively, Mrs. Urquhart is the founder/creative director of Cay-



► Cayman Islands National Gallery Director and Chief Curator, Mrs. Natalie Urquhart is the sole recipient of a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the New Year Honours for her past and ongoing contributions to the arts and cultural sectors in the Cayman Islands and the wider region. (Photo Supplied)

man Art Week, a project created in 2021 to help offset the impact of the pandemic on the creative sector and to create a platform through which to promote the art sector. The initiative aims to generate greater interest in local art, to stimulate more purchasing of local art and thereby enhance local artists earning capability.

Yet, for all her accomplishments including her double masters' degrees and an already impressive collection of awards, she remains down-to-earth, congenial personality and above all, humble.

Awards she has garnered include the Cayman Literary Award (2017); Cayman Islands Top Employer Award Winner (team leader) (2011, 2014, 2015 & 2016); and National Young Caymanian Leadership Award Recipient (2011). Additionally, she has been honoured with a number of National Arts and Culture Awards including Heritage Cross (2016); Star for Creativity (2010); and now in 2022, Gold Star for Creativity; Star for Creativity Certificate (for Cayman Art Week – her brainchild); and another Star for Creativity Certificate with the gallery staff for their digital programming initiative.

Mrs. Urquhart continues to provide her expertise as she has done over the years, on a number of voluntary boards and working committees, whether local, in the Caribbean, the Americas or the wider world. She believes strongly that culture can enrich lives as well as providing a critical platform through which to find shared values and social cohesion.

Commenting on the New Year's honours, she says with customary simplicity: "It's a true honour to receive this award and I am grateful and humbled by the recognition. I'm very fortunate to do work that I love alongside creative people who inspire me, and would like to extend my deepest thanks for their encouragement and support over many years. This award is also extremely motivating and will certainly inspire my work moving forward."

She also singles out her family and husband Mr. Alexander Urquhart along with the National Gallery team for their unwavering support. Her advice to young persons in the Cayman Islands is to "try and seek a career that you are passionate about and to be curious and open-minded in your work. Set your goals and believe in them and never let your failures stop you from moving forward."

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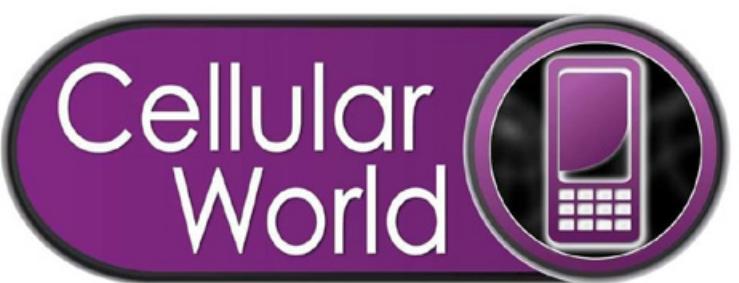
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COMMUNITY NOTICE

DG's 5K Challenge Returns – Registration Now Open

The Deputy Governor's much anticipated DG's 5K Challenge is returning to all three Cayman Islands.

Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz Manderson, personally leads the DG's 5K Challenge. He explained he has selected this year's charitable organisations because these charities and their programmes have a tangible effect on the community.

He adds: "We chose the charities back in 2020 and are very happy that we can finally hit the road with the community to benefit them. Fundraising from this year's DG's 5K Challenge will contribute to reducing instances of cancer and provide meaningful care and support for those who suffer serious and debilitating diseases like MS, Alzheimer's and Dementia. Almost everyone in the community has been affected by these ailments in one way or another. I encourage everyone living in the Cayman Islands to join us in April for as many of the three challenges as they can manage! Together, we really can help today and protect tomorrow."

The DG's 5K Challenge brings together civil servants, private sector employees and members of the public in a fitness and fundraising challenge. It is part of Mr. Manderson's vision to have a healthier, more active and more socially engaged civil service, while also benefitting charitable organisations and initiatives in the Cayman Islands.

The DG's 5K Challenge raises money through a combination of corporate sponsorship pledges and the registration fees of participants in the event.

The walk/run will be held on the following dates:

- Sunday, 3 April 2022 – Cayman Brac
- Sunday, 10 April 2022 – Little Cayman
- Sunday, 24 April 2022 – Grand Cayman

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Real Freedom

Currently our Cayman Islands Bill of Rights allows abortion only to save the life of a pregnant woman. Within the new woke culture there is a strong push to comply with all Human Rights Conventions one of which is that babies in the womb have no rights. So, we are being asked to discuss/decide whether Cayman should revise and repeal certain sections of the Penal Code which would expand the ability for doctors to approve the execution of life in the womb. This back door legal tactic would amount to legalizing abortion on a subjective and incremental basis.

Contrary to what you will hear in the media or from Liberal special interest groups, the vast majority of all abortions in the world have nothing to do with women's health. Instead, they are about convenience, and avoiding the consequences of what may have been a previous bad decision. Amazingly, some people are willing to destroy babies in the womb, sacrificing God's creations on the altar of convenience.

Yes, babies in the womb are God's creations not man's (or woman's). Men and women cannot create life, we are simply

the tools. But we can destroy life, and the sickest part of it all is watching us try to rationalize it by using or twisting our own laws to supersede God's law. We are doing a lot of that these days, full of our own ego, convincing ourselves that lawyers and politicians know better than their Creator. Really? How could that possibly be? We have all been given a conscience which is God's way of reminding us what is right and wrong. When you think about aborting a baby, what does your conscience tell you?

We need to rise above the standards of the world and get back to doing what is right, doing what God calls us to do. Why? Because regardless of



what we choose to do, we will be judged on the results. Real freedom comes with responsibility to use it properly. It does not mean freedom to kill - as in abortion.

This change will very possibly happen unless you contact your Parliamentarian and tell them you do not support these proposed changes to the Penal Code and quickly sign one of the

petitions going around in many of the churches. Take a few moments to save a life - it might be your grandchild's!

Quaerite verum

Disclaimer. The views, opinions and thoughts expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions or thoughts of Caymanian Times.

Cayman LGBTQ Foundation President qualifies as a CPO

On the 28 September 2020, Cayman's Civil Partnership Law 2020 came into effect, a ground-breaking piece of legislation that enables same sex couples to form a civil partnership, thereby offering them the same rights under the law as an opposite sex couple, especially when it comes to the rights of children within the partnership. In order to effect same sex partnerships, a Civil Partnership Officer (CPO) must legally preside over the partnership, so Noel Cayasso-Smith, Founder and President of Cayman LGBTQ Foundation, has undertaken a training course and is now a qualified CPO.

Mr Cayasso-Smith was pleased that he is now enabled to bring same sex couples together, effectively in marriage.

"I am delighted to be able to offer same sex couples the chance to live together in a legally recognised civil partnership, which is so needed here in the Cayman Islands,"

he advised. "For too long now, the needs of the LGBTQ+ community in this area have been ignored and overlooked, so it is with great pride and pleasure that I can now legally unite same sex couples in love and unity in this way."

Mr Cayasso-Smith added that while he was excited to be able to provide this service to the local community, this was also a highly sought-after service by visitors who come to the Cayman Islands in order to get married.

"Our LGBTQ+ visitors may now join together in civil partnership in our beautiful Cayman Islands just as any opposite sex couple has been able to enjoy for so long. I am very much looking forward to offering our visitors the chance to unite in this idyllic wedding destination," he said.

If you would like to know more about civil partnerships in the Cayman Islands, please contact Mr Cayasso-Smith at...



► Noel Cayasso-Smith (centre) with Ms Floffiebell Maragh and Mr Donnell Dixon, CPOs

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Centenarian Celebrates in Style, Receives Royal Recognition

Mrs. Mary Viola Brown, better known as Ms Vi, enjoyed not one but two celebrations for her milestone birthday, which was on Friday, 25 February.

The George Town resident marked her 100th trip around the sun with a three-hour drive-by outside her home on her special day. Family, friends and other well-wishers dropped by to congratulate her while taking in the live music by her relatives the musicians Paula and Burman Scott.

The mother of five was further celebrated with a birthday party, receiving a message from The Queen. Applied for by her loving family, the message now takes pride of place in the centenarian's home.

The framed and signed birthday greetings from Her Majesty were delivered by His Excellency, the Governor Martyn Roper at George Town Yacht Club on Saturday, 26 February. Festivities included a special cake, food, decorations, a surprise guest appearance by Aunt Sookie and Zekiel - who did a skit in her honour - and music from the Swanky Kitchen Band. Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton attended, as did Ms Vi's grandniece, Minister for Education, District Administration and Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, who gave the closing prayer.



► Mrs. Mary Viola Brown in 1977.



► Mrs. Mary Viola Brown celebrates her 100th birthday (Friday, 25 February) at a second birthday event at George Town Yacht Club with family and friends on Saturday, 26 February 2022.



► The late Mr. Lester Brown with wife, Mrs. Mary Viola Brown.



► Mrs. Mary Viola Brown received friends and family at a drive-by to celebrate her 100th birthday on Friday, 25 February 2022.



► The framed message from The Queen to commemorate Mrs. Mary Viola Brown's 100th birthday on Friday, 25 February 2022 was presented to her by His Excellency the Governor Martyn Roper at the George Town Yacht Club on Saturday, 26 February 2022.

Surrounded by friends and family members, including many of her 13 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren, the former seamstress was in her element, according to granddaughter Raquel Parsons. Married to her husband the late Lester Brown for 58 years, Ms Vi took to being the centre of attention in her stride, with a hug and a word for everyone.

"Given that my grandmother is very lively, has a great sense of humour and used to love cooking and entertaining in her younger days, she really enjoyed the weekend's events, Ms Parsons added.

"She's a people person who says serving in her parents' mercantile shop in the Brac during her teens made her sociable.

"She's a living family tree who, when she is on form, likes nothing better than company who she'll regale with old stories, discuss politics and explain who is related

to whom," daughter Mrs. Darlee Ebanks noted.

When asked to what she attributes her longevity, Ms Vi says to "eat sparingly, don't drink and smoke, work hard and serve God."

Originally from Watering Place, Cayman Brac, the centenarian was born in the same month that the British granted independence to Egypt, and the same year that the tomb of Tutankhamun was discovered in the Valley of the Kings.

Just 10 years old when the Storm of '32 ravaged the Brac, Ms Vi vividly remembers the worst hurricane in Caymanian history. When asked how she was at her celebrations, the 100-year old and last surviving Mary and Eli Scott's 12 children said: I'm old but I'm not cold."

"Ms Vi represents a generation of Caymanians who were self-reliant and were very resilient in the face of real hardships. They were hardworking, god-fearing people who had a strong sense of identity and a love of kin," said Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, Hon. Bernie Bush.

"As a matriarch, she represents all the qualities that we most admire in our culture. I wish her a very happy belated birthday," he added.

When not celebrating landmark birthdays, the super senior likes nothing more than singing along to her Christian music channels, listening to the radio and watching Hallmark movies. Although a little arthritic, she also enjoys popping bubble wrap. "It's her version of Candy Crush," her granddaughter mused.

Though she spends more time at home in recent years, Ms Vi still attends church when able to. Ms Vi looks forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including her three-month-old great-grandson Caleb.

To apply for birthday and anniversary cards sent on behalf of The Queen, visit www.royal.uk/anniversary-messages-0

UK OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AT CENTRE OF RUSSIA SANCTIONS

By Michael Jarvis, London UK

As global economic pressure is ramped up against Russia for its ongoing war on Ukraine, Cayman and other British Overseas Territories are increasingly on the global front line - both figuratively and literally.

The imposition of sanctions in the OTs against Russia has come via directives from the British government as the administering authority.

"UK Government policy is for any UK sanctions to be given effect in the OTs," an official document explains.

The objective is to strangulate the Russian economy and to deny wealthy Russian oligarchs access to their funds and assets held in the OTs financial centres.

The British Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss, said that the UK Government was "working closely" with the Territories to implement the new sanctions.

British government documents point out that "the value and number of Russian assets in the OTs is unknown, as are those liable to be sanctioned".

However, while the exact value of the targeted wealth is uncertain, it's believed to run into billions of dollars.

The documents refer to estimates by leading organisations including Transparency International which has linked over £830 million (over US\$ 1 billion) worth of property in the UK's OTs and Crown Dependencies to individuals close to Russian President Vladimir Putin or Russians accused of corruption.



Among the assets being targeted are financial instruments, real estate, luxury yachts and planes registered in the islands including Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Isle of Man and the Cayman Islands.

In 2020, in a report on Russian money in the United States, the Atlantic Council said that "traditionally" money has first left Russia via Cyprus, then "typically" is moved to the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands, before being moved finally to the US and UK.

Already in the OTs, the respective governments and agencies have confirmed the sanctions are being applied.

The Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) has published a list of persons

and companies which are being sanctioned with a stipulation reminding firms that act on their clients' behalf of their obligation to comply with the measures.

In Bermuda, one of the largest global re-insurance centres with numerous yachts and planes on its register linked to Russian entities, the government has confirmed it will implement the sanctions. It says this is likely to "greatly impact" around 740 aircraft registered in the country that are used by Russian operators.

In the British Virgin Islands, Governor John Rankin confirmed: "The UK has introduced the largest and most severe package of sanctions ever imposed on Russia.

Those sanctions will also be applied in the BVI, cutting off access by Putin and the Russian banks to international finances."

He also advised that "all aircraft owned, operated or chartered by a person connected with Russia or registered in Russia is banned from flying in the air space of the Virgin Islands."

The OTs are concerned about the local economic impact of the conflict especially now that they are just emerging from the slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Rising energy prices and their ripple effect is a major worry for the import-dependent islands.

Assessing the situation, the Premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Charles Washington Missick, said: "The Government anticipates that these Islands will no doubt be impacted by the rising energy prices which can have a trickle-down effect on the prices of food, commodities, goods and services."

Mr Missick who is the current lead Premier in the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) added that his government is looking into alleviating the impact on businesses and residents.

"The Government is deeply concerned about this turn of events and in response will need to intervene to lessen the negative impacts on residents of the TCI. Measures to ameliorate the burdens of households and small businesses in this environment are being considered."

Cayman Islands Premier Wayne Panton is also concerned about the economic fallout from the conflict.

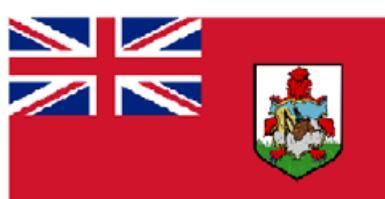
"This war presents a threat to the global economy, which is already reeling from its attempts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic," Mr Panton said. "Here in the Cayman Islands we will almost certainly see higher fuel prices, which will in turn impact the prices on all goods and services, and therefore the general cost of living."

In making a plea for an end to the conflict, Mr Panton said: "Instead of war, the Cayman Islands would prefer an urgent peaceful end to this situation."

(The implications for the Cayman and other OTs were discussed in the current edition of The Panel available on Caymanian Times Facebook and YouTube pages.)



Anguilla



Bermuda



British Antarctic Territory



British Indian Ocean Territory



British Virgin Islands



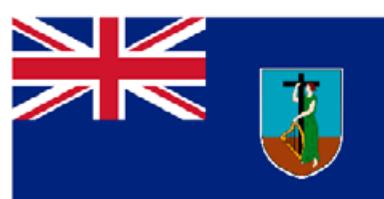
Cayman Islands



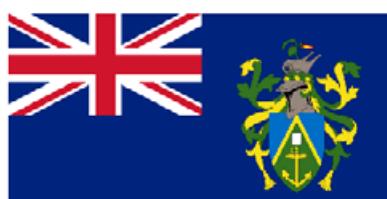
Falkland Islands



Gibraltar



Montserrat



Pitcairn Islands



South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands



Turks & Caicos Islands

CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN LAUNCHES ONLINE FINANCIAL 'COACH'

MX-powered tool will provide data enhancement and insights to help clients better manage and improve their finances

Consider it your personal financial coach available at your fingertips and on call 24/7.

CIBC FirstCaribbean has launched its newest financial tool, CIBC FirstCaribbean 1st Insights, to help clients better manage and improve their finances. The newest tool in the bank's ongoing journey to make banking personalised, easy and responsive, is available to the bank's Online Banking and Mobile App users.

Mark St. Hill, Managing Director, Retail and Business Banking at the bank, was thrilled with the tool noting that it will offer clients "personal, predictive and proactive guidance". He explained that with "CIBC FirstCaribbean 1st Insights, you will receive a daily feed to your financial wellness at your fingertips. It gives you tailored, real-time information about your finances based on your savings or chequing account activity serving up the insights that matter most to you".

He said the bank viewed its clients as "more than just accounts but unique individuals with your own financial needs and goals. CIBC FirstCaribbean 1st Insights takes a personal approach to how you view your finances by offering financial insights into how you spend".

Created in conjunction with financial data platform MX, whose award-winning data enhancement platform and MXinsights are powering the new tool, CIBC FirstCaribbean 1st Insights will monitor your finances and offer insights that guide you to stay on track with your budget.

In explaining some of the features of the new tool, Esan Peters, Chief Information Officer & Managing Director, Technology

& Operations explained that the "Monthly Savings Summary insight will let clients know how much money they have in their account over the past months, and how much they managed to save or not save during the previous month. We will cheer you on every step of the way as you save towards your goals".

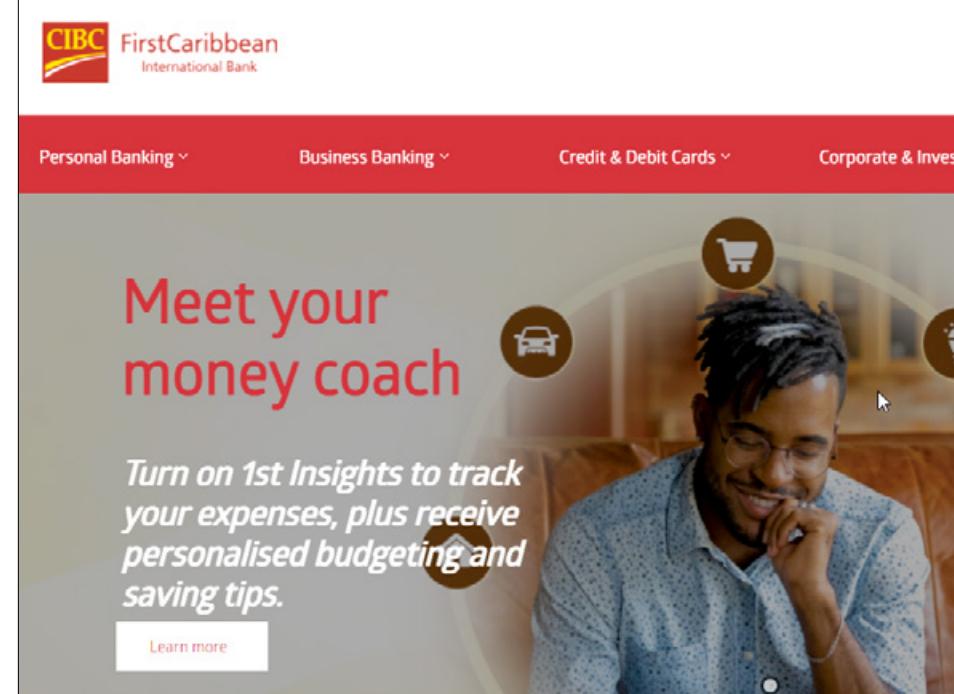
He added that the Monthly Spend Comparison insight would provide users with a summary of their total monthly expenses, together with a monthly comparison. This will help users track which months they spent more or less than average.

"You may miss when a subscription to your online newspaper or streaming service goes up because it all happens automatically on your account. The insights tool will help you identify these changes with the Subscription Price Increase insight. It will show you what you were previously spending and what the new amount is. The Budget insights keep you on track with what you're spending and where you're spending it," Mr. Peters added.

CIBC FirstCaribbean 1st Insights is available to all of the bank's Online Banking and Mobile App users free for a three-month trial period starting from the date of enabling. After the initial trial period, users will be able to continue using it for a very low USD\$3 annual subscription fee.

About CIBC FirstCaribbean

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Retail and Business Banking and Wealth Manage-



ment segments. We are located in sixteen (16) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services that fit our customers' lives through approximately 3,000 employees in 68 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with over US\$11 billion in assets and market capitalization of US \$2 billion. We also have an office in Hong Kong. The face of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC FirstCaribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a member of the CIBC Group. CIBC is a leading Canadian-based global financial institution with 11 million personal banking and business clients. Through our three major business units - Retail and Business Banking, Wealth Management and Capital Markets - CIBC offers a full range of products and services through its comprehensive electronic banking network, branches and offices across Canada with offices in the United States and around the world.

For more information about CIBC FirstCaribbean, visit www.cibcfcib.com, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram or YouTube.

60 Nexus Way, Camana Bay's newest commercial building, tops out at 10 storeys; announces anchor tenants

60 Nexus Way, the Cayman Islands' tallest commercial building, is moving on up.

At a small gathering yesterday, Thursday, 24 February, members of the Camana Bay community witnessed the ceremonial raising of the beam as the town's newest building was "topped out," a term used in the construction industry to mark the installation of the final piece of the building's structure to signify that it has reached its highest point. A topping out is noted as a milestone in the construction of a structure and, therefore, given a ceremonial moment to mark the occasion.

At the event, law firm Appleby and technology-focused investment firm Block.one were announced as the anchor tenants who will each be moving into a full floor in the building's 9th and 10th floors respectively.

"Twenty-five years ago Camana Bay's master-planning journey began, guided by Dart's long-range vision," Dart Director Jackie Doak said at the event, adding that the evening marked a significant mile-

stone on that journey with the topping out of Camana Bay's first 10-storey building.

"We started with our nursery, our school and our vibrant town centre which has been built around thoughtfully landscaped public space, sustainable buildings, exceptional restaurants and retail, and a lively calendar of community events. Truly a place where people live, work and play."

At 10 storeys, 60 Nexus Way is a mixed-use commercial building, offering 20,000 square feet of office space on each of the top nine floors, with flexible and efficient floor plans available for tenants. The ground floor offers opportunities for premium businesses to offer products and services to the more than 2,700 people who live and work in Camana Bay, and thousands more who visit. More information on the construction and design of 60 Nexus Way can be read in this article featuring interviews with some of the design and construction team behind the building. With a strong value of sustaina-



► The ceremonial raising of the beam during the "topping out" of 60 Nexus Way

ble development, Dart is building 60 Nexus Way to LEED® certification standards, and final finishes are expected by the end

of 2022. For more on 60 Nexus Way, visit 60nexusway.ky or by contacting leasing@dart.ky

Cayman Islands Red Cross launches Ukraine Crisis Appeal

The Cayman Islands Red Cross (CIRC) is launching an appeal to support the residents of Ukraine who are being impacted by the intensification of fighting in that country.

"Wars and war-zones create challenges that are different from those posed by other disasters, especially those with which we are familiar like hurricanes and earthquakes" explains CIRC Director, Jondo Obi. "The Red Cross Movement was born out of such conflicts, and as such our global structure is one that is able to support short, medium and long term humanitarian efforts in areas impacted by these types of disasters, as is Ukraine now."

The CIRC appeal will assist the global Ukraine Crisis Appeal launched by the International Federation of the Red Cross

(IFRC) and backed by the British Red Cross (BRC). The appeal will support the work of the Ukrainian Red Cross who is working on the ground with direct assistance from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the arm of the Red Cross Movement tasked exclusively with protecting the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflicts and situations of violence. The appeal will also support the National Societies in neighbouring countries, such as Romania, Hungary and Poland, as they work to assist the 874,000+ persons who have fled Ukraine over the last six days.

Funds raised in this appeal will, among other things:

- Support families with food, shelter, first aid, medicine
- Support the work of reuniting separated families



- Support hospitals and healthcare facilities

- Repair vital infrastructure
- Help to repair homes, healthcare centres, schools and community centres in the long term

The ICRC will also be responsible for performing other duties, such as ensuring that dead bod-

ies are treated with dignity and increasing awareness about areas contaminated by unexploded ordnance. Unexploded ordnance is ammunition which has been fired, but has not functioned as designed and can be particularly dangerous as all the normal safety features have been disabled. This includes items like

hand grenades and missiles that failed to explode when intended but that can easily be triggered by mere touching or handling, such as that of a child who discovers it.

The Red Cross Movement has already mobilised thousands of staff and volunteers who are already providing life-saving assistance such as shelter, basic aid items, medical supplies, as well as mental health and psychosocial support.

The CIRC Ukraine Crisis Appeal will run from March 3 - April 10, 2022. Donations can be made to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal account at Butterfield Bank, or in person at the CIRC Administrative Office at Cayman Corporate Centre on Hospital Road.

For more information contact director@redcross.org.ky.

POLICE NEWS

Traffic Advisory: Anton Bodden Drive Closed between 5:30AM and 8AM on Weekdays

Motorists are being advised that due to public complaints regarding safety, poor driving practices and traffic congestion between Anton Bodden Drive and Condor Road in Bodden Town, access to Anton Bodden Drive (located next to the Bodden Town Police Station), will be closed to the public between 5:30AM and 8AM, Monday through Friday, starting on Monday

7th March, until further notice. Alternatively, motorists are encouraged to continue on their route along Bodden Town Road.

Police officers will be posted at the location during these times and will allow local access only. The RCIPS is encouraging everyone to cooperate with these changes and thank the public for their support.

Police Investigate Sudden Death

Police were scene at the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Watlers Drive on Friday, where the body of a deceased man has been discovered. Eastern Avenue was temporarily closed between West Bay Road and Bodden Road as the scene



was processed, however both lanes have now been re-opened to traffic.

COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Statement from Interim Chief Medical Officer Dr Autilia Newton

Vaccination against COVID-19 remains our best tool to protect our residents from severe disease and death.

The best available real-world data on the protective effects of vaccine show extremely clear benefits for standardised vaccination regimes, including boosters, and that these protective effects are applicable to multiple variants of the virus. To date, none of the studies from which these data are derived allow for modification of vaccination regimes based on the results of antibody tests carried out at individual level.

Allowing the results of antibody testing to prescribe the need for vaccination, including booster, for any given individual, would go against best practice and evidence.

In the Cayman Islands, the Government is determined to follow recommendations based on best practice and evidence. As such it believes that the best and most effective way to protect the health of all residents, is through vacci-



► Chief Medical Officer Dr Autilia Newton

nation, including the booster, regardless of immunity status, as may be described by any existing antibody testing at the individual level.

We therefore strongly encourage Caymanians and residents to take up the offer of vaccination, including the booster, through the booster and children (ages 5 to 11) vaccination campaigns currently being run across our islands.

For the current vaccination schedule, visit www.hsa.ky.

One new death but positive numbers nose-dive

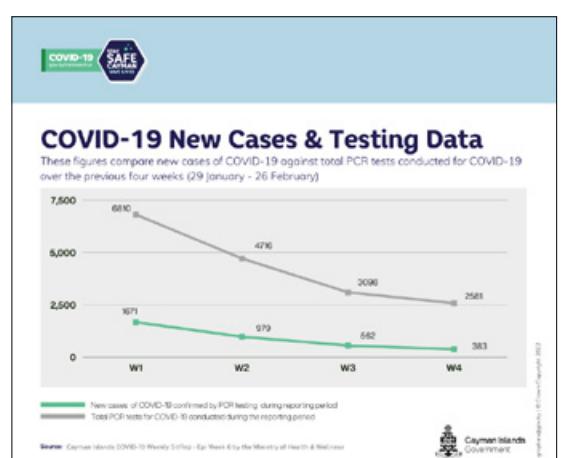
Just released information from the Ministry of Health and Wellness show that Cayman saw one more death due to Covid-19 in an unvaccinated person during the last week of February. This brings the toll of Covid-related deaths to 18 in the Cayman Islands since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020.

During that same week there were 383 new cases reported by Public Health, a drop of 169 cases since the previous week of 13 to 19 February. As at the end of February, positive Covid-19 cases had declined by 77 percent over the previous four weeks.

Officials noted that 2,581 tests were conducted in the last week of February, compared to 3,098 tested the week before and 4,716 tests the week before that.

During the last week of February there were 17 hospital in-patients going through the George Town hospital and Health City.

The most recent figures released by Public Health indicate a continuation of



the downward trend of positive cases, with 41 being reported as of 1 March and 23 reported as of 2 March.

There are 774 estimated active cases of Covid in the Cayman Islands. Nine patients are currently hospitalised for Covid-related causes and of these, one is partially vaccinated and five are unvaccinated.

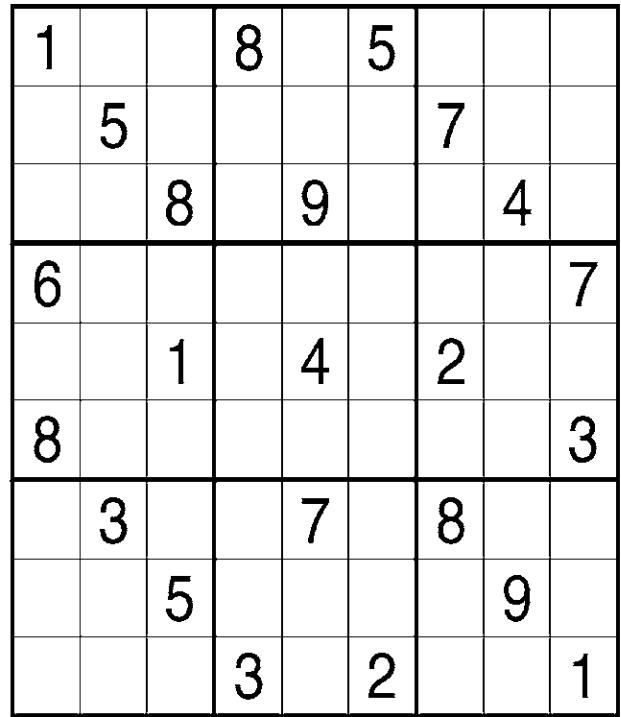
The Sister Islands also noted nine new cases since the last report, bringing total cases here since the beginning of the pandemic to 567.

SUDOKU

Conceptis SudoKu

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

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

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5/03

Answer to previous puzzle

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

5/03

Word Search



Algebra
Angle
Area
Circumference
Compute
Count
Cubic
Decimal
Denominator
Diameter
Equation
Figure
Fraction
Graph
Height
Length
Maximum
Measure
Quotient
Radius
Root
Size
Total
Volume
Width

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



Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

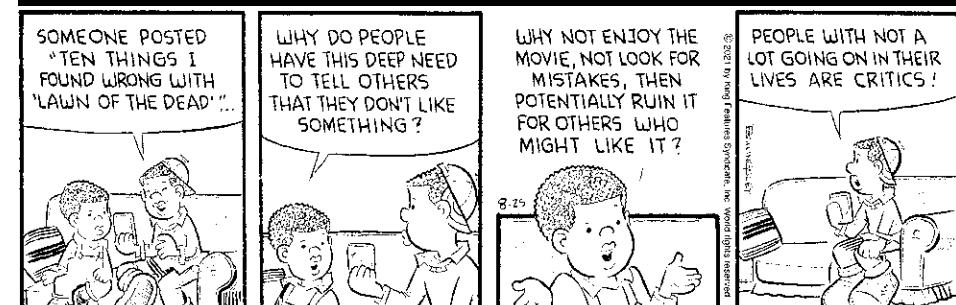
By Stan Lee



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CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



SOMEONE POSTED "TEN THINGS I FOUND WRONG WITH 'LAWN OF THE DEAD'..."
WHY DO PEOPLE HAVE THIS DEEP NEED TO TELL OTHERS THAT THEY DON'T LIKE SOMETHING?

WHY NOT ENJOY THE MOVIE, NOT LOOK FOR MISTAKES, THEN POTENTIALLY RUIN IT FOR OTHERS WHO MIGHT LIKE IT?

PEOPLE WITH NOT A LOT GOING ON IN THEIR LIVES ARE CRITICS!

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



OKAY, OKAY! I'M COMING!
MARCHLUAND + MANLEY 8/25
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
HAPPY HOUSEWARMING! I WOULD HAVE BROUGHT MORE PEOPLE, BUT REALLY, WHO WANTS TO DEAL WITH THAT?
COME ON IN, RON.



Holly McLean Is Ready to Inspire Other Young Caymanians as Grant Thornton Cayman Islands' First Golf Ambassador

Holly McLean is preparing for the 2022 summer amateur events where she and other top international golfers strive to gain exemptions into the largest amateur golf tournaments.

She represents both the Cayman Islands Junior National Golf Team and the Cayman Islands Women's National Golf Team.

"Golf is a great sport with amazing opportunities to meet new people and visit new coun-

tries," says McLean, "Any young Caymanian interested in golf should get out on the course, enjoy the sport and never give up!"

McLean initially enjoyed tennis but discovered her love for golf at age 10. Her first international tournament was the 2016 Doral Publix Junior Golf Classic held in Miami, and she went on to represent the Cayman Islands as part of the Junior National Golf Team winning the Junior Caribbean Championship in Jamaica. Holly is a former Cayman Islands women's national champion; she has since won six international tournaments and continues to push her game to the next level. Holly is currently a student of the prestigious Albany Golf Academy in the Bahamas and has verbally committed to playing Division 1 collegiate golf in September 2023.

To help McLean achieve her goals and generate more golf engagement in the Cayman Islands, professional services firm Grant Thornton Cayman Islands has appointed her as their first golf ambassador in the Cayman Islands, in a combined effort to help grow the game locally.

"We are proud to welcome Holly McLean as our first Caymanian golf ambassador," says Greg O'Driscoll, Partner and Head of Asset Management and Business Development at Grant Thornton Cayman Islands, "Holly is one of the most exciting golf prospects in the Cayman Islands and we look forward to supporting her as she continues to develop her game, both locally and interna-



tionally. She is a fantastic role model with a bright future, and it is with immense pride that we embark on this journey with her."

"I am extremely excited to announce my partnership with Grant Thornton," says McLean "and look forward to sporting their logo on my gear. 2022 is a big year for me and it gives me

great confidence to have the support of Grant Thornton."

Grant Thornton Cayman Islands is delighted to support McLean as part of the next generation of local golfers and can't wait to see how she grows the game.

For more information, please visit www.grantthornton.ky