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SALE

New CBC officers graduate

See story on page 8-9 >>

Beacon Farms: the Movie

A new documentary telling the inspirational story behind a farm run by recovering addicts in North Side will have its world premiere at Camana Bay Cinema on Wednesday 8 February. Local documentary-maker Candy Whicker spent three years following the team at Beacon Farms to produce a film about this remarkable social enterprise changing lives through agriculture.

Whicker was inspired to make the film after a visit to Beacon Farms in 2019 when the project was still in its

infancy. "I loved the idea of a once derelict property being brought back to life and 34 acres of bush being transformed into an organic working farm whilst retaining aspects of the wilderness as a haven for the flora and fauna of Cayman," she said.

Beacon Farms chief operating officer Sandy Urquhart agreed to give her full access to capture an honest picture of life on the farm. With her camera and tripod, she quickly became a familiar

CONTINUED ON Page 10

Lands and Survey Appoints Young Caymanian

See story on page 5 >>

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Recession: small business survival is key



► We're entering a global recession

The Cayman Islands is globally known for its finance and corporate law industry but the small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) industry is just as vital to its economy. Two disastrous years of pandemic and now the cost-of-living crisis has disproportionately affected small businesses. Russia's attack of Ukraine has had a ripple effect too as the world enters a recession.

Small business survival in a recession is difficult but doable, as many enterprising Cayman entrepreneurs have proven. SMEs are the backbone of the global economy, according to a recent update from the World Economic Forum.

Many of Cayman's small businesses are bars, restaurants, dive shops, car rentals, retailers, pool and landscaping services and tourism-related companies. Thankfully, the Cayman Islands has a robust small business sector and there is

plenty of evidence of that as we pull together in an admirable community spirit.

Small and micro businesses such as ice cream trucks and roadside jerk stalls are at least surviving if not thriving in the Cayman Islands and they are an integral part of our business community. Buying local and supporting small business has a drip down ef-

fect that directly benefits locals and expats alike. Cayman has robust copyright laws to protect intellectual information. There are also strong laws to protect digital media, artistic works, music and people and organisations that hold patents.

SMEs create close to 70% of jobs and Gross Domestic Product worldwide. But, amid warnings of a global recession, research from the World Economic Forum and the National University of Singapore Business School indicates "that 67% of executives from SMEs cite survival and expansion as their main challenge."

As a small business owner, there are ways to prepare for a recession. One is to keep a laser-sharp focus on cash flow, making sure to invoice quickly and review expenses more regularly than normal. Another is to consider how to best serve clients in an economic downturn. Keeping tabs on inventory and staff efficiency is a must too.

Perhaps there are ways the business can adapt its services to offer products that may help clients more effectively during a recession. Focusing on providing value and considering what customers really need is essential too. Not only will this increase an SME's chances of survival, helping its customers helps cement those relationships and position the business for growth when the recession has passed.

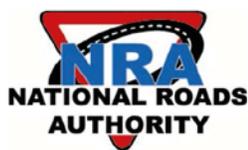
1. So in summary, the most important things a business should do during a recession to ensure longevity and end up better off in the long run are:

2. Focusing on optimum efficiency at every level

3. Finding its most profitable activities and doubling down on them

4. Emphasise delivery and client retention

By focusing on these three things the experience of surviving a recession and even thriving after it becomes a lot more palatable.



Public Notice

Availability of Draft Terms of Reference Document for Public Review Environmental Impact Assessment for the East – West Arterial Extension Section 2 – From: Woodland Drive To: Lookout Road Section 3 – From: Lookout Road To: Frank Sound Road

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) addressing the project described above will be conducted in accordance with the National Conservation Council Directive for Environmental Impact Assessments, Section 43, National Conservation Law. The draft Terms of Reference (ToR) which guides how the EIA process occurs, will be made available on the Department of Environment's website for review for 21 calendar days beginning 30 January 2023:

www.doe.ky

The NRA will provide a printed copy of the ToR for review, at the following locations:

- NRA Office - 370 North Sound Road Grand Cayman.
- North Side Post Office - 896 Northside Road, North Side
- Bodden Town Post Office - 189 Bodden Town Rd, Bodden Town
- Savannah Post Office - 1687 Shamrock Rd, Savannah
- Vernon L. Jackson Public Library & Learning Centre - 69 Bodden Town Rd, Bodden Town
- East End Public Library located at 2739 Sea View Rd, East End

Comments on the draft ToR can be submitted in writing to the Environmental Assessment Board c/o the Department of Environment via email (DOE@gov.ky), post, or hand delivery to the Department of Environment Office.

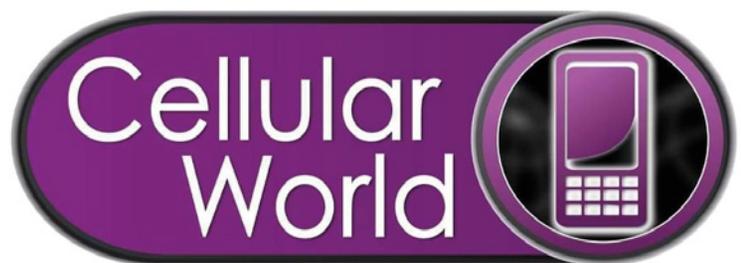
Mailing Address:
Department of Environment
PO Box 10202, KY1-1002
Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

Physical Address:
Environmental Centre
580 North Sound Road
George Town, Grand Cayman

Two (2) public meetings will be held from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in Bodden Town and North Side. Representatives from the NRA and their EIA Consulting Team will be in attendance to provide information about the project and answer your questions.

North Side:
When: Tuesday February 7th, 2023
Where: Craddock Ebanks Civic Centre
923 North Side Road

Bodden Town:
When: Thursday February 9th, 2023
Where: CI Baptist Church – Church Hall
163 Pedro Castle Road



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FESTIVAL 2023

JON WEBER BENEIL MILLER

THURSDAY, FEB. 2, 7PM | HARQUAIL THEATRE

GABRIELLE STRAVELLI JON WEBER

NATALIE DOUGLAS PAT O'LEARY

SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 7PM | WESTIN HOTEL BALLROOM

NATALIE DOUGLAS

TUESDAY, FEB. 7, 7PM | THE NATIONAL GALLERY GARDENS

MUSIC AT THE LIBRARY - SWANKY KITCHEN BAND

THURSDAY, FEB. 9, 6PM | GEORGE TOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

JUILLIARD JAZZ - DUKE ELLINGTON ENSEMBLE

SATURDAY, FEB. 11, 7PM | WESTIN HOTEL BALLROOM

ALEXANDRA WHITTINGHAM

THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 7PM | CAMANA BAY CINEMA

CAYMAN NATIONAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 7PM | HARQUAIL THEATRE

PETER DONOHOE

THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 7PM | ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

"SOLD" - THE STORY OF MARY PRINCE

SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 7PM | HARQUAIL THEATRE

For more information and tickets, please visit caymanartsfestival.com or contact us at email enquiries@caymanartsfestival.com or tel. 922-5550

NOVA ANNOUNCE THE PROMOTION OF THEIR SECOND HR APPRENTICE TO RECRUITMENT ADMINISTRATOR

A success story from tourism collapse to recruitment champion

In 2020, the tourism outlook for Malique Richards was bleak. With COVID-19 shutdowns, the tourism market took the biggest hit, with many young Caymanians, like Malique, finding themselves with no jobs and their career prospects in the hospitality industry dwindling. But then, by chance, while scrolling through LinkedIn, he found Nova's HR Apprenticeship and with the deadline only two days away, he applied.

Nova's "Tomorrow's HR Talent" Apprenticeship program welcomes aspiring HR talent in Cayman looking to get a promising start in the industry. As part of a 24-month rotational program, the apprentice works towards a professional HR designation whilst gaining exposure across recruitment, immigration, and HR consulting. As a fully engaged employee within Nova, Malique gained invaluable experience as Nova's second apprentice. Two years and two HR certificates later (including the aPHR and the CISHRP certificate of HR Management), Nova Recruitment is excited to announce that Malique has completed his apprenticeship and become an integral part of the team with his recent promotion to Recruitment Administrator.

"My first full-time job was Bellman at the Wyndham Reef Resort. This was the start I needed, and I have always been



► Malique Richards, Recruitment Administrator at Nova Recruitment

thankful for the opportunity. I worked my way through nearly every department, finally settling into an administrator role in the Concierge Department. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and then COVID came...I was unemployed, with my dream of developing my career in hospitality now seemingly unviable," explains Malique Richards.

"I could not believe my luck when I

found the advert for Nova's "Tomorrow's HR Talent" Apprenticeship on LinkedIn. With only two days until the application deadline, I thought I had missed a fantastic opportunity. I did my research, practised my interview skills (using Nova's tips on their website), applied, and got it!"

During the apprenticeship, Malique collaborated with Nova's HR consulting team

on several high-level projects and discovered the in-depth intricacies of Cayman's immigration law. The crux of the training, however, has been developing the skills to recognise homegrown talent in the Cayman Islands by guiding candidates to new opportunities that would see them flourish, develop their skills, and enhance their careers.

"Since September 2020, Malique has been an integral part of our Nova Recruitment team", said Ambrose Guilfoyle, Co-Owner and Recruitment Consultant at Nova.

"Malique has proved that it is possible to transfer skills from one industry to another and that learning on the job in an apprenticeship format can be just as successful as formal education. We are extremely proud of his accomplishments, especially his completion of the aPHR certification. With this HR certification and his robust training, we are excited to see him grow in his new role as a Recruitment Administrator at Nova."

Read more about Malique's apprenticeship journey here. To learn more about career opportunities at Nova, visit their current job openings and follow them on LinkedIn to keep up-to-date on further apprenticeship details.

2023 Cayman Arts Festival



► Natalie Douglas



► Swanky Kitchen Band

The 2023 Cayman Arts Festival gets under way this week, launching a series of performances by acclaimed international musicians as well as outstanding local artists.

In addition to musical events in a variety of genres - including jazz, cabaret and classical - this year's festival also features the musical drama, "Sold - The Story of Mary Prince," as its final performance.

Cayman Arts Festival Executive Director Marius Gaina said this year's festival involved an expanded slate of events.

"This year, the event is larger than in previous years, with nine events taking place at six different venues between 2

February and 26 February," he said. "The lineup is star-studded and includes superb local talent as well."

Since its inaugural event in 2004, the Cayman Arts Festival has continually brought highly accomplished musicians to Grand Cayman while fostering local musicianship through various education initiatives. This year will be no different.

"All of the visiting artists conduct workshops, master classes or concert demonstrations for the benefit of Cayman's youth, which has always been a key focus for the Cayman Arts Festival," said Gaina.

Some of the acclaimed visiting performers

this year include noted jazz pianist Jon Weber, Cabaret singers Natalie Douglas and Gabrielle Stravelli, classical guitar superstar Alexandra Whittingham, the Julliard Jazz Duke Ellington Ensemble and Peter Donohoe, one of the UK's - and the world's - most renowned classical pianists.

Joining the visiting performers are a slate of the Cayman Islands' most talented musicians, including jazz pianist Beneil Miller, flamenco guitarist Nathan Herrera, the Cayman National Choir and Orchestra and the Swanky Kitchen Band among others.

The musical drama "Sold - The Story of Mary Prince" at the Harquail Theatre on 26 February features actor Amantha Edmead and the UK drama troupes Knumba Nia Arts and Unlock the Chains Collective. This poignant drama tells the story of one woman's spiritual struggle to overcome the brutality of slavery in the mid-19th century.

For more information and a schedule of all the performances or to purchase tickets, visit caymanartsfestival.com or the Cayman Arts Festival Facebook or Instagram pages. Tickets for each event are US\$30 for adults and US\$10 for students.

Lands and Survey Appoints Young Caymanian, Darren Kelly to Chief Surveyor

The Department of Lands and Survey (Lands and Survey) have announced the appointment of Darren Kelly to the role of Chief Surveyor. The appointment is an internal hire as part of a succession plan where Darren Kelly was identified as a potential successor to the role.

The Chief Surveyor of Lands and Survey holds responsibility for managing the Land Surveying section and its outputs, including the Cadastral Quality Assurance Unit and the Land Survey Office in Cayman Brac. The Chief Surveyor is the authority for the preparation and publication of the official maps of the Cayman Islands. Additionally, the Chief Surveyor provides technical expertise with the graphical mutation of Registry Maps in accordance with the Registered Land Act (1995 Revision), including revisions and verification of the correctness of Strata Plans submitted under the Strata Titles Registration Act (1996 Revision).

The Director of Lands and Survey, Mr. Uche Obi added, *"My congratulations to Darren on this very well-deserved appointment as Chief Surveyor, after successfully acting in the substantive role for 7 months. Darren's commitment, hard work, determination and a willingness to learn, has enabled him experience and rapid promotion within the Department of Lands and Survey. I am delighted that we have been able to appoint a deserving candidate to this senior post, demonstrating that Lands and Survey is committed to succession planning. I look forward to working with Mr. Kelly."*



► Darren Kelly

Darren Kelly is a Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS) and a Licensed Land Surveyor. He holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Surveying and Mapping Science from the University of East London, a Land Surveying Technician-professional certificate from the University of Technology, Jamaica, a Commander in Control certificate (UAV/drone) from the Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands, and a Level 3 certificate in Leadership and Management (ILM). His employment journey reflects a record of consistent progression within the Lands and Survey, beginning as

an Office Assistant in 2003, then rising through the ranks and serving in three different Survey Technician roles, then Geomatician and finally, Senior Geomatician. Throughout his extensive 20-year tenure, Mr. Kelly has accumulated a portfolio of key successes and accomplishments specific to his field of expertise. Notably, Darren Kelly chairs the Land Surveyors Board and the National Hydrographic Coordinating Committee (NHCC) liaising with the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) in regards to all International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) maritime safety notifications within the Cayman Islands' Exclusive Economic Zone. In addition to presiding over critical organized technical groups, Darren Kelly has spearheaded the development and management of key technical programs such as, but not limited to: the Land Surveying section's UAV/Drone program, the Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) network, the Cayman Island's Tidal monitoring network and the electronic survey (E-survey) in tandem with the wider E-Government initiative.

The Acting Chief Officer of the Ministry of District Administration and Lands, Wilbur Welcome commented by saying, *"Darren Kelly is a young Caymanian who exemplifies all the attributes and qualities necessary to be deemed world-class. Our Ministry is committed to fulfilling the Deputy Governor's vision for succession planning throughout our organization. This includes our underlying departments such as Lands*

and Survey. I am proud to see Lands and Survey position itself for sustainability and continued success by retaining critical institutional knowledge and experience honed by young stalwarts like Mr. Kelly. I look forward to seeing great things from Darren Kelly in the near future."

Chief Surveyor Darren Kelly expressed how elated he was about his new appointment and promises to enforce and develop regulations which promote good practice, with an ultimate goal of best serving the people of the Cayman Islands. Mr. Kelly expressed, *"I feel both immensely humbled and grateful to be in a position to lead the Surveying section of the Department of Lands and Survey. During my 20-year tenure, I have witnessed the Land Surveying sector evolve into a geospatial data bank to obtain a better understanding of our physical surroundings. Although this information continues to support many sectors operating within the built and natural environment, there is a consensus that more must be done to provide the general public with adequate awareness on legal boundary matters, while stoking the local population's interest in the profession. My team and I look forward to spearheading this effort. I would further like to express my gratitude to the Lands & Survey Department and the Ministry of DAL for their continued support throughout my career with the Civil Service."*

For more information about the work of the Department of Lands and Survey, visit www.caymanlandinfo.ky

Public Lands Inspectorate Issues Cease and Desist of Illegal Vending on Crown Land by 1 February 2023

The Public Lands Commission (PLC) Inspectorate is reminding the public that it is a criminal offense to conduct commercial activities on Crown land without a vendor's permit issued by the Public Lands Commission.

The Chief Inspector of the PLC, Winsome Prendergast further advises, *"Any person found vending from Crown properties without a valid Vendor Permit issued by the Public Lands Commission, is in breach of the Public Lands Act, and the Public Lands Regulations. Such persons are to immediately cease and desist from this criminal undertaking, and have until the 1st February 2023 to do so, or face prosecution and the confiscation of goods and materials used in the commission of this offence"*.

The PLC Inspectorate enforces the law as set out in the Public Lands Act (2020 Revision) and the Public Lands Regulations, 2021. The core role of the enforcement arm of the Public Lands Commission,



relates to the application, regulation and protection of Government property and Crown lands.

The PLC Inspectorate further advises that it is currently investigating the rise in persons operating commercial activities on public beaches. Chief

Inspector Prendergast further shared, *"We are aware that there are some pre-approved persons who have pending applications or have conditional approval based on having a valid trade and business license. These vendors are to operate ONLY from the design-*



nated kiosks at the Seven Mile Public Beach. We will provide the public with an update of the newly designed Vendor permit application process following receipt of Cabinet's policy directive on beach vending."

Anyone with information about persons operating on

Crown land, or parcels registered as Public Land, are asked to contact the Public Lands Inspectorate by phone at (345) 946-7110 or by emailing plcinpectorate@gov.ky

For more information about the PLC and its mandate, visit www.gov.ky/plc

Meals on Wheels Change for Change Donation Drive



It's that time of the year again! Time to empty those coin jar, piggy bank, coin tray and pockets to help raise funds to support

our seniors. Every penny helps, so whether your donations jangles or folds, know that you will be making a difference in the



life of a senior in need! The 10th Annual Cayman Islands Meals on Wheels (MOW) Change for Change Donation Drive will see hundreds of volunteers stationed around Grand Cayman on Friday and Saturday, January 27th & 28th collecting coin, cash and donations of any amount for Meals on Wheels. Despite the ongoing challenges surrounding increased cost of living and food security, Meals On Wheels continues to provide daily hot meals to those in need across Grand Cayman. Jennifer West, General Manager for MOW stated that "We are hoping to raise enough funds to provide 7,350 nutritious hot meals to seniors across our community for one month!" Ms. West encourages everyone to "give from the heart" and support this event generously, "Loose change may not seem like it could make much of a difference, but when the community pulls together it all adds up to

make a huge difference to help those who need us most".

Volunteers of all ages will be stationed across popular locations to support this event and make it a success. Collection locations include Credit Union, Butterfield (Butterfield Place), Galleria Plaza, all Fosters Supermarkets, Cayman National (Elgin Avenue), Rubis AA (Red Bay), Atlantic Department Store, Atlantic Kids, Kirk Home Centre, Hurley's Supermarket, Camana Bay (Paseo), A.L. Thompsons, Kirk Market, Café del Sol (Marquee Plaza) and Cost U Less.

Thanks to our sponsor Davenport Development for making this event possible by supporting Cayman Islands Meals on Wheels, in the fight to end senior hunger in the Cayman Islands! To donate, volunteer or learn more email info@mealsonwheels.ky, visit www.mealsonwheels.ky or call Meal on Wheels on 769-1974!



► Meals on Wheels Volunteers of all ages collected donations from supporters across Grand Cayman.

Dept. of Sports Gives First Quarter Facilities Update

The Department of Sports (DoS) is making considerable progress with prioritising the upgrades of its facilities in 2023, according to DoS Director Kurt Hyde.

The announcement comes with the recent hiring of new Assistant Director of Facilities, Mr. Darrel Evans Jr. who is currently establishing a master plan. This plan will reflect the scope of the ongoing maintenance needs and necessary upgrades to the Department's sites. Mr. Evans Jr. is already organising a number of capital projects which have been met with challenges due to COVID-related disruptions with the global supply chain in building materials. DoS upgrades include rebranding of its sports facilities which can already be seen at Cox Courts, Ed Bush Stadium and the Ronald Forbes playing field.

The refurbishment of the George Town Annex restrooms and changing rooms, along with the Ed Bush stadium changing rooms and softball field lights is also underway at this time, with an anticipated completion date of March 2023. Other remedial works currently underway include



► The Ronald Forbes Playing Field in North Side. The Department of Sports is undertaking upgrades and preventative work at several of its Grand Cayman facilities in 2023.

the Ed Bush grass field's irrigation system, which has been reinstated along with field remedial works to provide another playing field for West Bay.

With plans to lengthen the Ronald Forbes field in North Side for adult football matches, these improvements will

provide the Eastern districts with three fully functional fields, which will alleviate the heavy traffic at DoS's George Town and West Bay fields.

Other projects being reviewed include the resurfacing of district walking tracks, building changing rooms at the East End

playing field and the resurfacing of the basketball courts. A structural assessment of the Truman Bodden Sports Complex, and Ed Bush playing field grand stands, and upgrading facility signage, are also being undertaken.

"DoS recognises the impact the lighting situation, is having on sports and we have already made significant steps to rectify the matter and we are looking at late March 2023, to get all the equipment on island and installed," stated Director Hyde. With the procurement process completed, the Department of Sports looks forward to having these high-level LED lights in place to help enhance local sports, reduce our carbon footprint and attract more international sporting events to our islands," he concluded, thanking the public for its patience and cooperation.

In other DoS updates, the department's website is scheduled to be launch in the first quarter of 2023. The site will allow for online booking of facilities, and for clients to report issues to its maintenance team.

Government Opens the Cayman Islands' First US-based Office

Marking a historic moment, the Cayman Islands Government's office in Washington, DC, was opened officially on Thursday, 26 January, by the Ministry of Financial Services and Commerce.

Approximately 60 persons, including officials from fellow Caribbean countries, representatives from the British Embassy, former members of US Congress, DC industry stakeholders, as well as visiting Cayman Islands industry stakeholders commemorated the occasion during a reception at The City Tavern Club in George Town, Washington, DC.

For the Cayman Islands, His Excellency the Governor, Mr Martyn Roper; and Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André Ebanks, spoke during the event. Government's representative for the US and Canada, Mr Chris Duggan, hosted the reception.

Noting the significance of the opening, the Governor noted that the UK fully supports the office and its remit. Speaking after the event, he also noted that plans for the remaining two locations, to cover the EU and Asia, are progressing well, also with the UK's support.

Minister Ebanks, himself the former London-based Government representative for the UK and Europe, wished Mr Duggan all the best. He underscored that the representative's role affords greater opportunities for providing the true and accurate record of the Cayman Islands to US elected officials, department staff, industry representatives and media.

Like the remit of Government's long-established representative's office in the UK, the representatives in the three new offices will cover all of Government. While Mr Duggan covers the US and Canada, Ms Deborah Bodden is Government's representative for the EU; and Mr Gene DaCosta is Government's representative for financial services in the UK/EU, and in Asia. Government's representative for the UK is Dr Tasha Ebanks-Garcia.

As part of the DC office opening programme, Mr Duggan, Mr DaCosta and the Ministry's Chief Officer Dr Dax Basdeo ac-



► (From left) His Excellency the Governor, Mr Martyn Roper; Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André Ebanks, and the Cayman Islands Government's representative for the US and Canada, Mr Chris Duggan.



► The Cayman Islands Government's representative for the US and Canada, Mr Chris Duggan (centre) speaks during the 26 January reception at The City Tavern in Washington, DC, to commemorate the official opening of Government's DC office. Also pictured (from left) is His Excellency the Governor, Mr Martyn Roper; and Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André Ebanks.

companied Minister Ebanks to meetings with stakeholders including senior staff of US elected officials and industry stakeholders Mr. Duggan was appointed to the post in 2021. After completing the required US protocols, the office was officially launched on 26 January 2023. The office is located at 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC.

"The process for establishing an office in an overseas jurisdiction requires a number of approvals," Minister Ebanks explained. "Among others, the Cayman Islands Government thanks the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office, through the British Embassy in Washington, DC; the US State Department; and our own Minis-

try of District Administration and Lands, which approved the DC office location in accordance with Government policy."

The official opening of the DC office followed the Cayman Finance Breakfast Briefing and a reinsurance roundtable, both of which took place on Tuesday, 24 January.



► The Cayman Islands Government's representative for the US and Canada, Mr Chris Duggan (centre), and his wife, Mrs Dee Duggan, speaks with Jeff Munk of Munk Policy and Law at the Cayman Islands Government's reception, held on 26 January at The City Tavern Club in Washington, DC, to commemorate the official opening of Government's DC office.



► (From left) Niaz Khan, CEO for Asia Pacific and the Cayman Islands for Waystone; Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André Ebanks; and His Excellency the Governor, Mr Martyn Roper, attend Government's 26 January reception at The City Tavern in Washington, DC, to commemorate the official opening of Government's DC office.



► CBC Director Charles Clifford presents one of the graduates with their certificate



► Acting Governor Franz Manderson presented Jermaine Wilson with Best Academic Performance

24 Customs and Border Control officers graduate



► Acting Governor Franz Manderson



► Deputy Premier Chris Saunders



► Chris Saunders presented Best Academic Research Paper to Joshwa Clarke



► Showing off their drill outside the Harquail Theatre

By Christopher Tobutt

It was a big day for for 24 new officers from Customs & Border Control who graduated basic training on Friday 27 January at the Harquail Theatre. The celebrations began with all the graduans displaying their drill skills outside, a 'first' for the service which is celebrating its fourth anniversary in 2023.

Inside, all 24 of the smartly turned out officers - representing just 5% of the total applicants - sang the National Song before the addresses and awards were given out. Present were Acting Governor Franz Manderson Hon. Christopher Saunders, Deputy Pmrier and Minister for Border Control, , Chief Officer Wesley Howell, and CBC Director Charles Clifford.

Mr. Clifford said, "I offer my sincere congratulations, and admiration on reaching this milestone today. As CBC officers we have dedicated ourselves to protecting our country and ensuring the freedom and safety of the people of our beloved Cayman Islands.

"Our vision is to strengthen the security and stability of the Cayman Islands

24 graduate

CONTINUED FROM Page 8

through an intelligence led risk management approach. Our mission to collect and protect revenue, facilitate legitimate travel and trade while providing effective border management for the safety of our environment, citizens and visitors.”

Training for the class of 22/23 began last year, and included freedom of information training, as well as two weeks of classroom and intense practical training in risk management, with Caribbean Regional Systems Training, and fraudulent document training delivered by the overseas investigations unit of the US Embassy in Kingston, who were supported by the UK border force and Canadian High Commission. The CBC basic training course commenced on the 13 June 2022 and included a combination of theoretical and practical learning.

Deputy Governor Franz Manderson said, “We depend on you as CBC officers to help to protect the security of our islands. You’re in charge of detecting guns and pills and other harmful substances into our country at our ports. There’s no other agency that has the responsibility of detecting undesirable persons coming into the islands.

“You’re now part of what makes Cayman special. You are ambassadors for our country. The first person that a passenger is going to see when they turn up at passport controls is you. How they view the Cayman Islands will have a lot to do with how you conduct yourself. They are not going to care that you might not be having a great day. They are going to expect that you are going to provide a warm Caymanian welcome to everyone, regardless of how you are feeling.”



► CBC's Class of 22/23

Mr. Marnderson added that the “Happy” rating for the customs check point had been consistently at 94% over several years, and that not many other destinations would be able to boast such a high level of customer satisfaction.

Hon. Christopher Saunders said, “We have never had four generations working in the workplace at the same time. You can have an 18 year old working alongside an 81 year old, because people are now living longer and people are also coming out at a much younger age. Equally, this is the

first time in human history that leadership which traditionally goes from the elder to the younger person has now reversed itself, for the simple fact of technological advances”

Director Chales Cifford and Senior Deputy Director Bruce Smith presented each of the CBC officers with their graduation certificates and medals. In the Special Awards section, Best Academic Performance was presented to Jermaine Wilson, Best Academic Research Paper was presented to Joshwa Clarke, and Sherreth Fisner-Gard-

ner received Most Improved Trainee. Talisa Martin received the award for Best Oral Presentation as well as the Leadership Award.

Outstanding Proficiency Awards went to CBC Officers Tiffany Rose Bennett; Agnes Green-Ferguson; Yitzchak Conolly, John Arch, Eric Turner; Theresa Senior, Sherreth Fisher-Gardner and Leannie Douglas. Esprit de Corps went to Eric Turner. Best Female in Physical Training award went to Dee-An-Foster, and Best Male in Physical Training went to CBC officer Joshwa Clarke



► CBC's Class of 22/23, during a musical presentation at their graduation ceremony in the Harqail Theatre

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Beacon Farms: The Movie

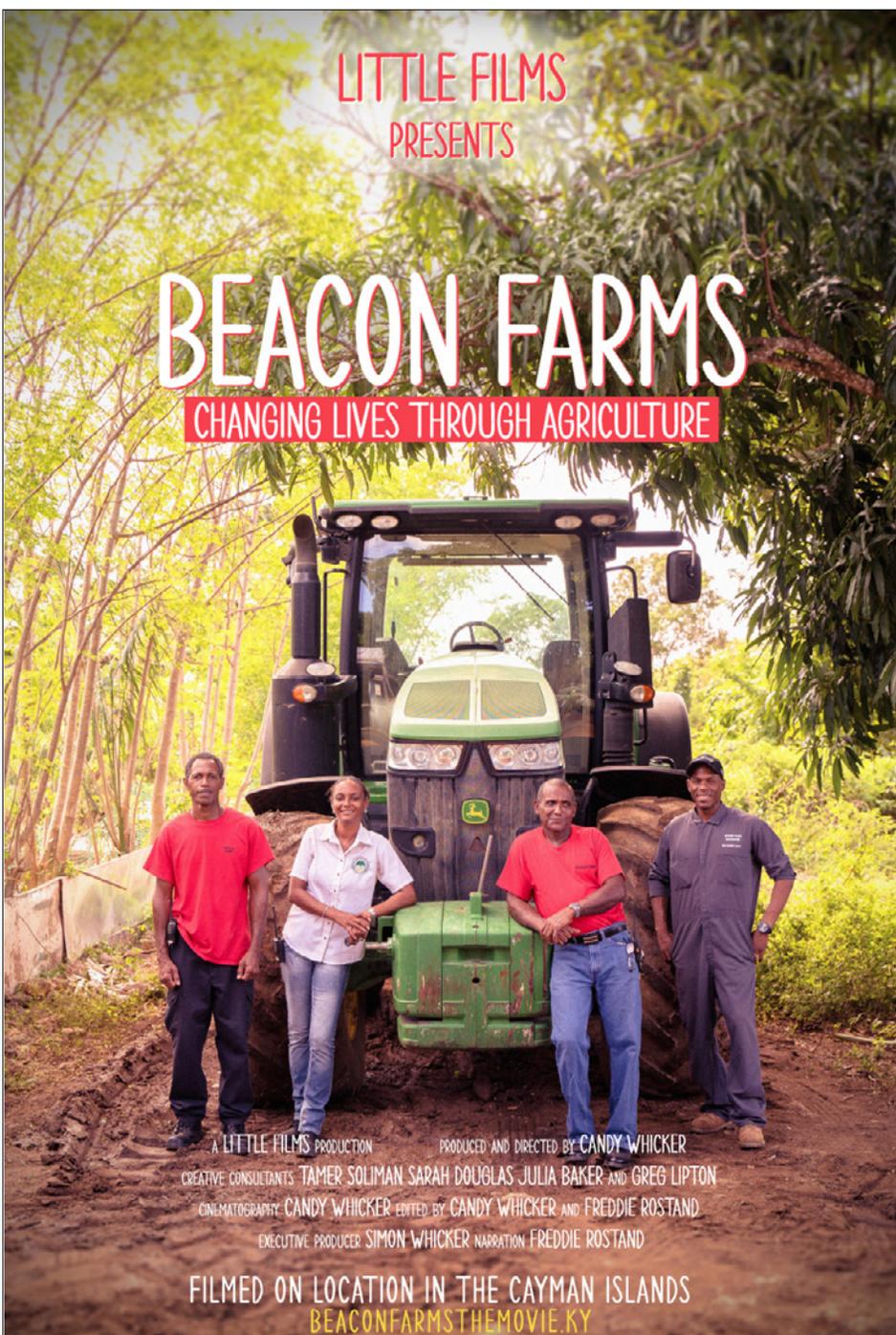
Local documentary-maker tells the story of a farm changing lives through agriculture age



Candy Whicker, director and producer



Beacon Farms movie poster



Beacon Farms

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

figure at Beacon Farms, encouraging members of staff to feel comfortable about sharing their stories. The result is a candid and moving portrayal of a small group of people having a big impact on the way farming is done in the Cayman Islands.

Beacon Farms is breaking new grounds in agriculture, producing soil with a rock-crushing machine and compost, introducing mechanised farming and trialing new crops that could help increase food security in the Cayman Islands.

However, Beacon Farms' primary purpose is to provide a safe, sober working environment for Caymanians recovering from drug or alcohol addiction. Jobs in agriculture, whether propagating crops or maintaining farm equipment, offer a chance to learn new skills and get closer to nature. As the documen-

tary shows, the recovery journey is not easy. Beacon Farms provides a second chance for many.

Beacon Farms currently employs 12 members of staff and has the potential to change the lives of many more. Set up by philanthropist Granger Haugh and his son Scott, Beacon Farms has the potential to become financially self-sufficient in the next three years.

"I hope this film shows how much hard work, innovation, kindness and money has gone into creating something quite remarkable," said Whicker.

The premiere for the Beacon Farms documentary on 8 February is an invitation-only event kindly sponsored by Dart. Public screenings will be held at Camana Bay Cinema from Wednesday 15 February through Friday 17 February with tickets available to purchase at the cinema.

For more information, and to watch the trailer, visit BeaconFarmsTheMovie.ky.



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SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★ 4/02

Difficulty Level ★★

4/03

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 46 Kidnap price
 - 1 "Key Largo" co-star
 - 7 Wild guess
 - 11 Perfect place
 - 12 Hand over
 - 13 Require
 - 14 Sunup spot
 - 15 Debt medium
 - 17 Treaty
 - 20 Requires
 - 23 In the past
 - 24 Refueling break
 - 26 Game caller
 - 27 Corn serving
 - 28 Tango need
 - 29 Dante topic
 - 31 Charter
 - 32 Chop-house order
 - 33 Sinuous fish
 - 34 Emerson works
 - 37 Vatican VIP
 - 39 Potter Wedgwood
 - 43 Revered person
 - 44 To-do list
 - 45 Brooklyn team
- DOWN**
- 1 Future flower
 - 2 Had a snack
 - 3 Web address piece
 - 4 Separate
 - 5 Script bit
 - 6 "Shane" star
 - 7 Play parts
 - 8 Household whistler
 - 9 TV spots
 - 10 Wager
 - 16 Prelude
 - 17 Louvre location
 - 18 Operative
 - 19 Brewing need
 - 21 Wooden rod
 - 22 Ocelot features
 - 24 Job bonuses
 - 25 McKellen of "X-Men"
 - 30 Studio stands
 - 33 German steel city
 - 35 Slightly open
 - 36 Exercise choice
 - 37 Grenade part
 - 38 Poem type
 - 40 Powerful people
 - 41 Hoopla
 - 42 Deli choice

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

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Brewing need
- 21 Wooden rod
- 22 Ocelot features
- 24 Job bonuses
- 25 McKellen of "X-Men"
- 30 Studio stands
- 33 German steel city
- 35 Slightly open
- 36 Exercise choice
- 37 Grenade part
- 38 Poem type
- 40 Powerful people
- 41 Hoopla
- 42 Deli choice

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1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
			15			16				
17	18	19			20			21	22	
23				24	25					
26				27				28		
29			30					31		
32								33		
		34			35	36				
37	38				39			40	41	42
43					44					
45					46					

4-18

Word Search

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

- Active
- Being
- Birth
- Breath
- Conscious
- Creation
- Essence
- Existence
- Flame
- Mind
- Presence
- Psyche
- Self
- Soul
- Spark
- Spirit
- Survival
- Vital

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



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CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



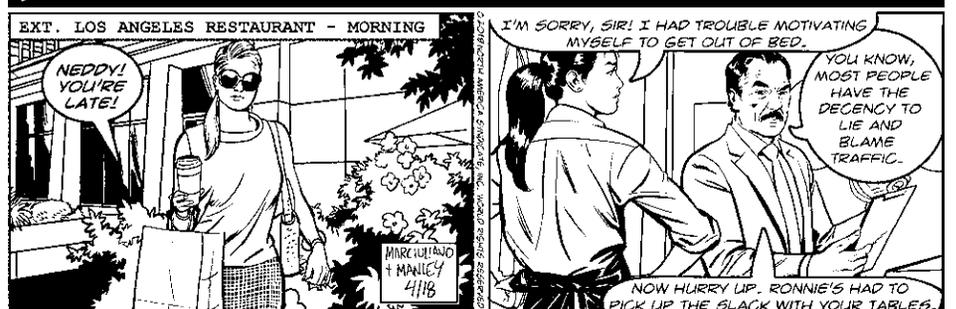
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