



T Caymanian Times

Weather
PERFECT ALL DAY
everyday at
 **Café del Sol**
COFFEE • FOOD • FRIENDS



NONSTOP FLIGHTS BETWEEN
PANAMA & CAYMAN
 Service starts June 26, 2023.
 Cayman Airways



Premier: Cayman's growth among the best

See story on page 10 >>

EDITORIAL: PRICE OF PROGRESS



See story on page 2 >>



Camana Bay's newest buildings win Awards

See story on page 6 >>

THE PRICE OF PROGRESS: RE-FRAMING CAYMAN'S EMPLOYMENT AND POPULATION DEBATE

There's been a flurry of debate surrounding the demographic and dynamics of Cayman's population based on recent employment statistics, particularly work permits.

It's a necessary debate to have but care must be taken that figures are not taken out of context.

In August last year when the 2021 Census of Population and Housing Report was published, the number of persons in the working-age population was recorded at 57,360, of which the labour force was 47,120.

The Census report showed that the labour force participation rate for Caymanians was 73.2 per cent compared to 91.4 per cent for non-Caymanians.

It also detailed that employment among Caymanians totalled 19,494 or 43.9 per cent of the total, while non-Caymanians were counted at 24,947 or 56.1 per cent.

Fast forward six months to January 2023 and it's now reported that there are over 34,000 foreign workers registered in Cayman by the Department of Work Opportunities and Residency Cayman (WORC).

In absolute numbers that's an increase of 9,129 - or almost 10,000 - or percentage terms, that's over 40 per cent.

By all counts, it's a staggering increase and should be of concern.

But what are these numbers really telling us?

NUMBERS REALLY COUNT

Crucially, Cayman does not have an illegal immigration problem anywhere near the scale of what some other countries and territories are grappling with. In fact, it's fair to say that our immigration controls are quite robust...and fair. Importantly, foreign workers are here by invitation to fill vacancies in the job market.

And while there will always be scrutiny and questions, rightfully so, about the work permit policies of governments through the years and prioritising Caymanians in the job market, one thing remains crystal clear. That is the law of supply and demand.

By all accounts, Cayman's economy is rebounding in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, outperforming many other economies regionally and globally. Given the nature of our service economy, there is a tremendous demand for workers to fill roles in tourism, construction, finance, ancillary services, government and other sectors of the economy.

DEMAND AND SUPPLY

During the economic slowdown much was said and much effort was put into training and upskilling Caymanians for new opportunities in the job market.

We anxiously await the latest updated employment statistics from the Economics and Statistics Office. (The current fig-



ure of 5.7% as of Oct 2021 scrolling on its website is woefully out of date).

Commenting on the 2021 Census Report, Hon. Deputy Premier and Minister for Labour and Finance, Chris Saunders, had said: "Our goal is to get as many of our people trained, developed and moved into the workforce, so the number is trending in the right direction."

This brings us back to the question "To what degree has the lucrative 'work permit economy' distorted the Cayman job market?"

There's no question that work permit fees have been a stable revenue source for Cayman governments down through the years.

One expert quite knowledgeable of business trends and government policies in Cayman, offered us this master-class perspective:

"The realities are this; we are a service-based economy. 95% tertiary to be exact. Our primary and secondary industries are roughly 5%. We don't have mining. We don't have manufacturing. To slow the economy means to slow down job creation.

"I will then ask the question...what area do we want to slow down: Financial services? Tourism? Construction? The reality is that with all the interest rate hikes construction will be slowed down. It will be more difficult to get loans to buy properties thus reducing demand, thus reducing supply, thus reducing jobs in that sector.

"In short," our expert said, "the market will correct itself."

Looking at the work permit debate, it was further pointed out that instead, attention needs to be focused not just on the number of foreign workers or work

permits, but more importantly on how many of the work permits are temporary and what sectors they are issued for.

"The real question to ask is this: How many of those permits are in the 'supply sector' and how many are in the 'demand sector'? That's really where the rubber meets the road," our expert concluded.

It's indeed a welcome move in the right direction that WORC is now making it a requirement that temporary vacancies must first be advertised for 14 days before a request for a work permit is submitted.

That allows for greater opportunities for Caymanian job seekers and is a further step towards further levelling the playing field which, admittedly, is somewhat uneven in some parts of the economy.

THE PRICE OF PROGRESS

Another aspect that cannot be overlooked is how 'demand for Cayman' impacts what's known in economic circles as a country's carrying capacity.

It raises the question of the size of the economy, the rate of growth, and Cayman's own ability to service this growing, in-demand, labour-hungry economic juggernaut.

More people needed to service the demands of the economy in turn means more people to be supported by the economy.

This impacts infrastructure, the road network, traffic congestion, the provision of healthcare, education and social services along with public safety and security.

It also requires an honest debate about Cayman's population projection and its carrying capacity.



D'Vonte Joseph

Alexander Elias

Levi Superville

Current Scholarship Recipients

Investing in the Cayman Islands since 1983.

Let us invest in your future

Water Authority-Cayman is now accepting applications for its 2023 Annual Scholarship. The successful applicant could receive up to CI\$35,000 to pursue an undergraduate academic or technical/vocational degree or diploma in a field of study relevant to the Authority's work.

Visit our website www.waterauthority.ky to apply today!

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 28 FEBRUARY 2023



Water Authority - Cayman

"Suppliers of the World's Most Popular Drink"



Caymanian Times

Issue # 855

Publisher: Ralph Lewis

Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd

#19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)

Telephone: 345 9162000

Email: info@caymaniantimes.ky

Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky



**It doesn't
get better
than Best.**



**We are honoured to have been awarded
Best Digital Transformation Bank Caribbean
by London based global financial publication,
The European.**

We received the award based on the advances we have made in digital banking, e-products, internet banking services and for enabling clients to bank where, when and how they want.

We will continue to enhance our digital channels and provide innovative solutions to meet your unique and changing banking needs.

The CIBC logo is a trademark of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, used by FirstCaribbean International Bank under license.



FirstCaribbean
International Bank



► Former Chamber President Shomari Scott stands with honorees at the AGM held on February, 9th.



► Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year, Christina Spratt receives her award from outgoing President Mr. Shomari Scott.

Chamber of Commerce Hosts AGM

The Chamber of Commerce welcomed a new president at its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 9th January at the Marriott, Grand Cayman.

Nelson Dilbert, who takes over from Past President, Mr. Shomari Scott, will serve and the organization's new president and brings a wealth of experience in the business sector.

He is the owner of Cayman Spirits Company and comes from a family with a long history in business in the Cayman Islands.

In his remarks Mr. Dilbert noted that he would be focusing on the new airline routes, along with the Chamber's relationship with young entrepreneurs, and working with government agencies to establish closer ties.

Cayman Islands Premier Wayne Panton gave the keynote address and his remarks, told the audience that he was glad to see Mr. Dilbert at the mantle of the Chamber of Commerce, calling him a 'serial entrepreneur' who had solidified his place in the Cayman business community throughout the years.

'I am looking forward to working with him to continue to grow Cayman's economy, post covid and it is our intention that the rising tide lifts all boats,' he remarked.

The premier noted that the impacts of the Covid-19 still live with us in the Cay-



► New Chamber of Commerce President, Mr. Nelson Dilbert addresses the audience at the Chamber's AGM on Thursday, 9th February.

man Islands, though the resilience of the Caymanin economy could be seen at places such as the Ritz Carlton, which is said to be fully booked for the next year.

Cayman's compliance with the global financial regime were lauded by the Premier, who said he was proud of the work being done by the Ministry of Financial Services under the leadership of Financial

Services Minister, the Honourable Andre Ebanks.

During Thursday's AGM, Chamber members and partners appraised the organiza-

tion's financial performance over the past fiscal year, in addition to recognizing key donors.

The organization suffered a net loss of over CI\$ 21,000; up from CI\$ 83,000 in its previous budget.

As the recovery of Cayman's economy continues, the future looks bright according to Chamber representatives, who lauded the Islands' counter-measures in the wake up the disruption caused by the worldwide pandemic.

The government's handling of the crisis, has no doubt been a major catalyst for the resurgence.


New Council members for the Chamber of Commerce were also announced at the AGM and a cadre of fresh new talent has emerged to continue the strides gained by the outgoing president and his team.

Several volunteers and donors were also recognized for their contributions to the work of the Chamber of Commerce.



Cellular World

PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS
BAYTOWN PLAZA, WEST BAY ROAD



NOTICE

THE ELECTIONS OFFICE WISHES TO ADVISE THAT, AS THERE HAVE BEEN NO CLAIMS OR OBJECTIONS FILED WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD IN RELATION TO THE REVISED LISTS PUBLISHED ON 20th JANUARY 2023, THE REVISING OFFICER WILL NOT BE SITTING IN ANY OF THE NINETEEN ELECTORAL DISTRICTS FOR THIS QUARTER

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



Randy Mellaneo



Troy Powery



Brandon Cadle



Dac Moore



Ignatius Gouveia



Max Garcia



Andrew Hafer-Greene



James Ebanks



Francis Zapanta



Shane Cato



Jonathan Key



Neil Murray



James Moore



Alvin Calub



Ivanna Powery



Sylvester Coleman



Energy Supply Operations Department



Electrical Maintenance Department

Employees and Departments Honoured

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) recently honoured 16 employees and two departments for outstanding service to the Company in 2022. The awardees were:

Randy Mellaneo (Employee of the Year), **Troy Powery** (Supervisor of the Year), **Brandon Cadle** (Excellence in Safety Award), **Dac Moore**, **Ignatius Gouveia**, **Max Garcia**, **Andrew Hafer-Greene** and **James Ebanks** (The Jeffrey Broderick Bright Spark Award), **Francis Zapanta** (The Otis Jackson Golden Wrench Award - Individual), **Shane Cato** (The Pedro Echenique Golden Bucket Award - Individual), **Jonathan Key** (Unsung Hero Award), **Neil Murray** (Living by Our Values Award - Excellence), **James Moore** (Living by Our Values Award - Reliability), **Alvin Calub** (Living by Our Values Award - Integrity), **Ivanna Powery** (Living by Our Values Award - Customer Service) and **Sylvester Coleman** (Living by Our Values Award - Teamwork).

The two departments honoured were **Energy Supply Operations** (Otis Jackson Golden Wrench Award - Team) and the **Electrical Maintenance Department** (Pedro Echenique Golden Bucket Award - Team).

The Otis Jackson Golden Wrench and the Pedro Echenique Golden Bucket individual and team awards are named in honour of the late Otis Jackson and Pedro Echenique, two “Veterans of Power” who joined the Company at its inception in May 1966 and provided extensive knowledge, experience and commitment to CUC for over 30 years.

In 2022, the Company introduced the “Living by Our Values Awards” to recognise employees who demonstrate a commitment to the CORE values that guide the way we do business.

Rewards and recognition is a driving force behind CUC’s commitment to acknowledge, appreciate and incentivize the efforts of our employees. CUC is also committed to attracting and retaining the best talent and has developed rewards and recognition initiatives tailored to demonstrate our appreciation for the work of employees, help improve employee morale and engagement and foster a continuous culture of employee recognition and high performance.



The Environmental Management System at the North Sound Road Power Plant is registered to ISO 14001

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Gold

Camana Bay's newest buildings win multiple International Property Awards

60 Nexus Way and Kapok gain international acclaim



► Dart's Vice President Business Development and Leasing, Kristy Rivers and Senior Vice President Development Planning, Robert Weekley were on hand to accept the awards.



► Kapok, which features 89 for-lease apartments and ground-floor Class-A retail space, welcomed its first residents in early 2023.

Camana Bay's two newest developments, Kapok and 60 Nexus Way, have the distinction of being honoured with multiple International Property Awards at a glittering ceremony at the Savoy Hotel in London on 2 February 2023.

The International Property Awards celebrate the highest levels of achievement by companies operating in all sectors of the property and real estate industry and is a world-renowned mark of excellence. They were judged by an independent panel of over 80 industry experts who focused on design, quality, service, innovation, originality, and commitment to sustainability.

Dart received the following awards:

60 Nexus Way: Grand Cayman's first 10-storey commercial building

- Best Office Development, The Americas
- Best Office Development, Cayman Islands: 5-Star Award

Kapok: Camana Bay's sustainable rental community

- Architecture Multiple Residence, Cayman Islands
- Landscape Architecture, Cayman Islands

On hand to receive the awards were Dart's Senior Vice President Development Planning, Robert Weekley, and Vice President Business Development and Leasing, Kristy Rivers.

"We're delighted to have won these awards. This goes to show what happens when clear planning is twinned with the creativity of designers to create modern spaces that are not only welcoming aesthetically but also have sustainability as a critical part of the design," said Weekley.

Kapok, Camana Bay's most recent residential development, welcomed its first residents in February 2023. With sustainability at its core, Kapok is the first development locally to be built to Fitwel® certification, a green building rating system that prioritises occupant health and wellness.

The Town Centre's latest commercial building, 60 Nexus Way, integrates

high-performance design with sustainable building practices in a modern Caribbean structure. Designed in collaboration between Lake|Flato, leaders in sustainable architecture, and the design team at Dart, the building mixes urban and tropical design features with modern infrastructure. Set to be officially opened in the first quarter of 2023, 60 Nexus Way features over 200,000 square feet of office and street-level retail space.

"These prestigious honours combined with the successful lease up of both buildings prior to completion, solidifies Camana Bay as the premier location of choice for both commercial and residential clients. These buildings manifest our commitment to create exceptional opportunities, places and experiences that enrich lives now and for future generations," said Rivers.

Dart Senior Vice President of Design and Construction, Gary Gibbs, noted the accomplishment of having the buildings come on stream at a high standard against the backdrop of recent global market conditions.

"The delivery of these projects through the COVID-19 lockdown period and amid post-pandemic supply chain challenges was a huge effort and our team innovated to ensure that both projects were delivered on budget. It was a tremendously successful team collaboration," he said.

Opened in 2007, Camana Bay is a master-planned development with close to 900,000 square feet of commercial office and retail space, as well as modern-luxury apartments. It is a lively town centre enlivened by cultural experiences, world-class shopping and more than a dozen restaurants, bars, cafés and speciality eateries. As Dart's landmark development, its efficient and modern features reflect Dart's commitment to planned, sustainable development in the Cayman Islands.



► 60 Nexus Way, which mixes urban and tropical design features with modern infrastructure, is the ideal location for commercial operations.



The Power to Excel

Congratulations Nicholas, Victoria and Aaron

2020 Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) scholarship recipient **Nicholas Scott** recently obtained a Master of Science degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Purdue University in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A 2013 CUC scholarship recipient, Nicholas completed a Bachelor's of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the Florida Institute of Technology in 2017. In 2020, he completed his Chartered Engineer (UK) designation and in 2021, completed his Professional Engineer (PE) designation, licenced in Florida.

A graduate of Layman E. Scott Sr. High School in Cayman Brac, Nicholas was enrolled in CUC's Summer Student Programme between 2012 and 2017 before and while attending university. Following his graduation from the Florida Institute of Technology in 2017, he joined the Company as a Graduate Engineer in the Engineering and Business Development department. In 2019, his position was Engineer in Training and in 2021, he was promoted to Electrical Engineer.

2017 CUC scholarship recipient **Victoria Powery** recently obtained a Bachelor's of Science degree in Occupational Safety and Health online from Columbia Southern University in Orange Beach, Alabama. In addition, Victoria also earned her certification as an Occupational Safety and Health Compliance Specialist and Industrial Hygiene Specialist through the university while completing her degree. During her course of study, she also earned the Graduate Safety Practitioner (GSP) designation through the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP), a not-for-profit corporation headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana that has been setting and certifying the technical competency criteria for safety, health and environmental practitioners since 1969. The GSP is a designation that meets the credential

requirement for the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) certification, allowing those who hold it to apply directly for the CSP once they meet its other requirements. Ultimately, the GSP designation accelerates the careers of EHS professionals demonstrating the dedication to professional development and career advancement.

A graduate of John Gray High School, Victoria joined the Company in July 2016 as an Administrative Assistant in the Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) department.

CUC established its scholarship programme in 1989 and since then has awarded full and partial scholarships to over 60 current and past employees and high school students in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering, information technology, systems operations, environmental management, occupational safety and health and financial services. In 2016, the Company further enhanced its scholarship programme by offering assistance for qualified students to pursue their A levels.

Also completing a degree was **Aaron Finch**, who joined the Company's EHS department as a Health and Safety Supervisor in 2022. Aaron completed a Bachelor's of Science degree in Occupational Safety and Health magna cum laude online from Columbia Southern University in October 2022. In addition, Aaron earned his certification as an Occupational Safety and Health Compliance Specialist and Industrial Hygiene Specialist while completing his degree. During his course of study, he also earned the GSP designation through the BCSP. Aaron previously worked with Tucson Electric Power's (TEP) Springerville Generating Station in Apache County, Arizona, for 10 years.



The Environmental Management System at the North Sound Road Power Plant is registered to ISO 14001

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Gold

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE — WEEK — FEBRUARY 20-24



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20	21	22	23	24
Celebrity Equinox	Odyssey of the Seas	Carnival Sunrise	Carnival Glory	Regal Princess
Disney Dream	Nieuw Statendam	Norwegian Prima	Carnival Paradise	Serenade of the Seas
	Brilliance of the Seas	Norwegian Sky	Celebrity Apex	
		Marella Discovery 2	Celebrity Summit	
Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers
6,850	9,396	11,086	10,184	6,061

See grouper moon on YouTube



► The grouper spawning is a marine phenomenon

The annual Nassau grouper spawning happened with the full moon last week and members of the public were able to watch this incredible phenomenon as it happened, as it was live-streamed while marine scientists conducted live educational sessions.

The video was broadcast in real time from the spawning aggregation site (SPAG) off the western tip of Little Cayman, one of the largest and last known sites in the world.

Scientists have been studying this grouper hole for over 30 years in col-

laboration between the Cayman Islands Department of Environment, the Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) and other members of the regional marine science community.

The conservation project and strict fish-

ing ban at the site has played a key role in the successful recovery of Nassau grouper populations in the Cayman Islands. Generous logistical support has been provided throughout the years by the Southern Cross Club, as well as by local dive operators at the Little Cayman Beach Resort/ Reef Divers. Brac Reef Resort has provided lodging support for education efforts on Cayman Brac. Cayman Airways has provided inter-island travel support. Grants from the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, beginning in 2011, have supported field efforts, the Baby Grouper Adrift webpage, several outreach products, and the development and continued coordination of the Grouper Education Program.

Anyone who missed the Grouper Moon live streams from Little Cayman last week are able to see them on the Cayman Islands DOE YouTube channel.

February 8, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdyE69rVilw&t=1980s>

February 7, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yIZuV9sHmc&t=25s>

February 6, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYwO5jPNLj0&t=40s>

Learn about this fascinating phenomenon and how our long term conservation efforts are making a difference.

REEF Environmental Education Foundation

#GrouperMoon #CaymanConservation #MarineProtection #ProtectWhatYouLove

The Alex Panton Foundation announces theme for the 2023 Youth Mental Health Symposium



► Alex Panton Foundation Members at the 2022 Annual Youth Mental Health Symposium

The Alex Panton Foundation (“APF”) has announced that the 2023 Youth Mental Health Symposium will be held in-person, on Saturday 18 February, from 10am to 4pm at the Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman.

The 6th annual event returns with the theme “Let’s talk about trauma”.

This year’s agenda will see a range of topics from students, parents, researchers, clinicians and policymakers to help us understand the effects of trauma that are often not seen, and what the community can do to help. The Symposium hopes to create a safe space for important discussions and to connect youth and parents with local mental health experts.

Jane Panton, Chairperson and Co-Founder of APF said: “It is vital to address a major cause of mental health issues - particularly in our young people. Trauma. While it may be a difficult conversation, APF is dedicated to helping our young people, parents, and anyone struggling with its effects.

Trauma has had such an immense effect in our society, that there is a need to discuss it in a public format so that everyone has a chance to find the resources they need. We must all feel that we are seen and heard, and that for any difficult situation, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and together, we can overcome it.”

The Symposium will feature a range of topics and speakers, including Dr. Erica Lam, Dr. Stenette Davis, Rhonda Kelly, Hon. Justice Margaret Ramsay-Hale, Shannon Seymour, Brandon Ramakko, and Dr. Stephanie Edwards, among others. The Honorable Sabrina Turner, MP, Minister of Health and Wellness, will deliver the opening address, while His Excellency Mr. Martyn Keith Roper, OBE, Governor of the Cayman Islands, will give welcoming remarks.

A panel discussion called ‘Surviving my trauma’ will be moderated by Dr. Kathryn Whittaker.

For more information on this year’s speakers and their topics, visit the APF website: at <https://alexpantonfoundation.ky/2023-youth-mental-health-symposium/>

Spaces are limited. Anyone who might benefit from this conversation is advised to register as soon as possible.

Registration on the day will begin from 9:30am.

APF extends thanks to this year’s generous sponsors for making this event possible:

Ministry of Health and Wellness, Burger King and Popeyes, Compass Media, Tower, Queensgate Bank & Trust Company Ltd, Ogier, Cayman Islands Health Services Authority, The Wellness Centre, Ministry of Education, Ironshore Pharmaceuticals and Development Inc, Infinite Mindcare, Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, Cinico, Health City Cayman Islands



Odayne Lynch
2014 and 2018 CUC Scholarship Recipient

Nicholas Scott
2013 and 2020 CUC Scholarship Recipient

We’re looking for the brightest minds

Applicants invited to apply for a CUC Scholarship

As an employer of choice, and one of the largest employers of Caymanians, CUC is committed to attracting, developing and retaining high potential employees by providing opportunities for Caymanian students to succeed in the electric utility industry.

CUC is proud to offer a scholarship to an accredited university for students who are interested in completing an Associate’s or Bachelor’s degree in related fields of study, which represent areas important to CUC including engineering, electrical technology, mechanical maintenance, information technology, occupational safety, health and the environment, regulatory and sustainability, corporate governance, finance, human resources and customer service.

Applicants must:

- have already obtained, or expect to obtain, during the current school year, adequate academic qualifications to be accepted by a university;
- be Caymanian or hold Caymanian Status;
- have a current GPA of 3.5 or higher;
- have a minimum of seven (7) GCSE/CXC/IGSE passes including English, Mathematics and Science(s) or the equivalent in the American educational system. Preference will be given to students with higher level passes (A level, AP, IB, etc.) in Mathematics and Science(s).

The successful applicant(s) will have an opportunity during school holidays to gain hands-on work experience and may be offered full-time employment with CUC upon completion of his/her studies.

To review the General Rules and Guidelines and apply, visit the “Scholarships” page under the “Careers” tab on CUC’s Home Page (www.cuc-cayman.com). Click on the “Apply Here” link, complete the appropriate online form and follow the instructions. Applications must be submitted not later than **Tuesday, February 28, 2023**. *Hard copies will not be accepted.*

For more information on these and other scholarship opportunities, please contact CUC’s Human Resources & Employee Development Department via e-mail at careers@cuc.ky.



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Gold

Premier Panton Praises Cayman's Economic Resurgence



► Cayman Islands Premier, the Honourable Wayne Panton addresses an audience comprised of the Islands' business community at the Chamber of Commerce AGM on 9th February, 2023.

Cayman Islands Premier, the Honourable Wayne Panton outlined the successes of the Islands' post pandemic economic recovery and outlined how Cayman's growth is among the best in the region during a recent speech.

Addressing a room filled with Cayman's business community at the recent Chamber of Commerce Annual General meeting no



February 9th, the Premier said that when he took office, the Cayman Islands were at a pivotal point in the crisis brought on by the ravages of the pandemic and its effects on local businesses.

"When we took office, the country was quite literally closed," he explained, adding that, Businesses - both small and large - were struggling to keep the lights on."

Mr. Panton said, with people losing their jobs and difficult times casting a bleak forecast on the Islands' economic prospects, he and his government had to act fast, and noted that though those time seem like a world away after the reopening of the Islands' borders and economy, the impacts still live with us today.

He explained that he was proud of the resilience of the business community and how people from all walks of life "rolled up their sleeves" and pulled together "...to get our "...beloved Cayman Islands working again."

The Premier said he was pleased to be able to report that today the economy is strong and getting stronger.

He outlined some of the highlights of the Islands' recovery:

"Hotels are full again, shops and restaurants are bustling, and jobs are available up and down the economic ladder," he said.

The successful reopening of Cayman has meant that there will be a surplus in government revenue this year.

Some of the measures being taken to continue to aid the economic recovery include extending the reduction in business fees for small and micro businesses, which has proven to be a booster shot for commerce.

From June 2021 to June 2022, small businesses benefited from CI\$166,294 in fee discounts and micro businesses benefited from CI\$1,471,300 in fee discounts, respectively.

The Premiers said there have also been great strides made in meeting the ever-changing global financial regulatory regime.

"We've improved technical compliance and are largely compliant with the 40 FATF

recommendations, we have also made strong progress toward completing the FATF's 3-point plan, issued in February of 2021," he remarked.

The Cayman Islands is also developing a consolidated Beneficial Ownership Act in Parliament and examining the European Union's Court of Justice November 2022 judgement regarding beneficial ownership registers to understand its impact.

According to Mr. Panton, there is a need to "stay ahead of the curve for regulatory developments and positively contribute to the global discussion around major financial talking points..."

For the period ending on January 31st, 2023, new business applications in the Cayman Islands were up by 351 and there were 1,164 renewals, according to the Premier, who added that as of 31st December, the total number of business licenses and certificates stood at 13,309.

As the cost of living increases and the war in Ukraine rages on, the Premier said he would be challenging his government to do everything in its power to assist the Caymanian people in facing the challenges of rising prices.

To do this, the government is formulating a comprehensive 'Cayman Sustainability Agenda', which will include and adjustment to the minimum wage, a substantial new investment affordable housing -with 100 homes planned - and support for educational initiatives relating to the Community College to prepare Caymanians for higher paying jobs.

The Cayman Sustainability Agenda will mean that critical road infrastructure and housing arrangements will encourage car sharing, biking and a new clean, reliable public transportation system.

In the past four years alone, there have been roughly 13,000 cars imported in the Cayman Islands, contributing to growing congestion issues.

Energy efficiency is also a priority for the government and plans are being formulated for the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency to assist eligible Caymanians to retrofit their homes in this regard.

Due to Cayman's geographical location, there will always be a cost of living challenge, the Premier noted, adding that this would not be solved over night but that the government was working to make things a little bit easier.



DG's 5k Raises Record \$100K, 2023 Event Set for April

The sponsors and volunteers behind the 2022 staging of the Deputy Governor's 5K Challenge received a big 'Thank You' on Tuesday 7 February 2023, at a Government House reception. The event also saw the handing-over of funds raised from the 2022 DG's 5K to the three beneficiary non-profit organisations

Last year's Challenge raised a record CI\$100k, which has been shared equally between the Cayman Islands Cancer Society, MS Foundation of the Cayman Islands, and Alzheimer's and Dementia Association of the Cayman Islands (ADACI). Major sponsors

Appleby, Davenport Development, Maples, Ernst & Young, Butterfield, Cayman Islands Civil Service Association Cooperative Credit Union and Dart were recognised along with other corporate sponsors.

"2022 was an amazing year for the DG's 5K," commented Deputy Governor Hon. Franz Manderson. "It is so special that we were able to give back to our communities to make lives better and to get out, get healthy, and exercise. Thanks to our sponsors and organisers. We've raised \$100,000 for some amazing charities and I'm very, very proud."



► ADACI Director Charmaine Elias receives the cheque to assist the charity's fight against Alzheimer's and dementia from Deputy Governor Franz Manderson. Also pictured are (l-r) DG's5K Organising Committee Co-chair Jennifer Ahearn, ADACI Deputy Chair Samantha Connolly, and His Excellency Governor Martyn Roper.

100 Women in Finance's Global Ambassador HRH The Countess of Wessex to Visit the Cayman Islands

HRH The Countess of Wessex will attend several events hosted by 100 Women in Finance while in Cayman

100 Women in Finance ("100WF") will host HRH The Countess of Wessex for a series of 100WF and GirlForce100 events as part of the upcoming Royal Visit to the Cayman Islands.

HRH The Countess of Wessex will attend an education event for 100WF Cayman members and special guests, meet local 100WF Angel members at a luncheon and participate in the 100WF Inaugural Cayman First Impressions Dinner.

HRH The Countess of Wessex is a long-time champion of gender balance and diversity in the workplace and has served as Global Ambassador of 100WF's Investing in the Next Generation Initiatives since 2015. In this role, HRH The Countess of Wessex travelled to several of 100WF's locations around the world.

The Inaugural Cayman First Impressions Dinner is the first of its kind for the Cayman Islands location. The evening is designed to provide both GirlForce100 mentees and other female high school students with an opportunity to interact with 100WF members in different roles and at different career stages. The hope is to inspire these young women to pursue pathways in the industry through positive role models and transparent access points.

GirlForce100 mentees will also join HRH The Countess of Wessex at the Governor's Residence for an intimate meeting, with the opportunity for each mentee to ask HRH The Countess of Wessex a career-related question of their choice.

"As Global Ambassador, HRH The Countess of Wessex has been an excellent advocate for increased diversity in the financial services industry, and for rais-

ing the industry's visibility and appeal as young women consider career paths," explains 100WF CEO, Amanda Pullinger. "Her work has helped to cultivate interest and engagement both from the next generation of women entering the industry and women at each career stage in the industry and has been invaluable to our organisation and its mission."

This is the second time HRH The Countess of Wessex is joining the 100WF Cayman Islands location in her role as Global Ambassador. "The Royal Visit is another poignant moment for 100WF Cayman, and the organisation globally," says 100WF Board Member, Christina Bodden. "When HRH The Countess of Wessex visited the Cayman Islands in 2016, our 100WF pre-career initiatives had just launched and, since then, her continued service has provided vital publicity for the important work we do around the world. In particular, her visit will shine a light on GirlForce100 and the important impact the programme is having on the next generation of Caymanian leaders."

100WF is grateful to the Maples Group, Travers Thorp Alberga and Baraud International for their support of the upcoming events. 100WF is seeking additional supporters of the 100WF Inaugural Cayman First Impressions Dinner, taking place on Tuesday, 21 February. Senior industry professionals working within the financial sector are encouraged to bring the young women in their lives (daughters, nieces, mentees, and others) to the dinner to learn more about a career in the industry. Those interested in purchasing a pair of tickets should visit bit.ly/FirstImpressionsCayman.



133 boys learn social skills



► John Gray High School Boyz2Men group

The annual Boyz2Men social etiquette sessions held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Grand Cayman was another classy affair.

It was a great opportunity for 133 boys

from across the Island to learn social skills in fine dining situations.

Skills they learnt included how to correctly hold cutlery, which bread plate and glass to use, table manners, passing and



► Students from Clifton Hunter High School

offering food, posture and positioning for dining and napkin etiquette.

Ritz manager Pratik Vyas said: "At the Ritz-Carlton our ladies and gentlemen are the most important resources in our service commitment to our guest. We sincerely appreciate all the students who came and showed their interest in learning the art of social etiquettes. We are always committed to investing in our local talent and nurture them."

Banquet director Marius Lazar conducted the session for the social protocols. John Gray High School, the hub from which the program Boyz2Men started, had 71 boys at the session. Several of the boys wore neckties and were smartly groomed.

Christopher C. Murray, school counselor at John Gray High, is the founder of the program. He said: "This year was exceptional, as, it's the most boys we have ever had in our program. The program warmly welcomes the Hope Academy Institute with 14 boys who recently joined."

The Clifton Hunter chapter of the program hosted 50 boys at the training along with 12 boys from Hope Academy. The training is geared towards the boys having a night of fine dining with their mothers in March to tie in with Mother's Day. Each boy will be required to escort their mother that evening and practice the chivalry and etiquette taught to them.

Hope Academy student Steven Stewart said: "Etiquette should be taught at all schools so that students like me can become aware of our body language and the messages it may convey to others. At the recent etiquette training at The Ritz Carlton Hotel, I learned socially acceptable behaviours and appropriate conversations while dining. Overall, it was a good experience."

Jordan Dias from John Gray High said: "It was a very good experience and fantastic customer service also Jan Carlos Hernandez mentioned that he learned a lot about table etiquette which he believes will help him in the future."

"I had an awesome time, it was a wonderful experience," said Javon Stanley of Clifton Hunter High School. Sian Lewis said: "The experience was very enriching and allowed us to see the operations of a hotel. The etiquette training gave us knowledge on how to eat like gentlemen, as well as social graces in formal dining. I am glad that I was given the opportunity and will use this knowledge in the future."



► The Hope Academy group

PROPERTY RENTALS & SALES

YOUR GUIDE TO REAL ESTATE



Sunrise Landing
Executive Canal Front Home
Boat Dock Available
3 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Water Street Savannah/
Newlands
ASKING CI\$1,250,000

Call Valentino to book an appointment at 1(345) 325-6372
www.utopiacaymanrealty.com



PATRICK'S ISLAND
PATRICK AVENUE
0.4 ACRES LOT
ASKING CI\$465,000



218 OCEAN CLUB
2 BED / 2.5 BATH
ASKING CI\$455,000

Newly renovated!
The lowest-priced oceanfront
2 bedroom in Grand Cayman.



House for Sale
Owner Financed
STUNNING CANAL
FRONT FAMILY HOME
NORTH SOUND ESTATE
ASKING CI\$775,000
3 BED / 2.5 BATH
INTERIOR: 2300 sq. ft
LOT: 0.28 acres



North Sound Estate Home

LEEWARD DRIVE 83

3 Bed + 2 Bath | 2,295 sqft | Listed at CI \$710,000

Jude Holland: 345-327-6162

MLS 415573 | Member of CIREBA



South Sound Condo

BY THE SEA 9

3 Bed + 3.5 Bath | 1,840 sqft | Listed at CI \$799,000

Jude Holland: 345-327-6162

MLS 415451 | Member of CIREBA

COCO FEST IS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

[Pedro St. James Set to Host Coconut Festival]



► Cayman Coco Nest bird nest. Credit - Carlo Lee



► Katherine enjoys talking to a customer about her succulents. Credit - Carlo Lee



► A representative from Island Organics proudly showcases her products



► Main Sponsor, Fidelity Bank staff man a booth at last year's event

A celebration of all things coconut, Pedro St. James, and the Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) are looking forward to hosting its eighth annual Coco Fest on Saturday 18th February.

"It's another outlet for entrepreneurs to promote and sell their locally made products but emphasizing the precious coconut fruit," said TAB Director Patrick Thompson.

Coco Fest began in 2016 and was created as a way to celebrate the Cayman coconut and to preserve its ties to Caymanian culture and heritage. The festival, which also highlights local cottage industry business is about remembering a time when the coconut industry was vital in Cayman.

Coco Fest also supports the Shop Local culture by creating a space for small businesses to showcase and sell their artwork, traditional foods and products made from coconut oil or some part of the coconut plant.

"We have had upwards of 30 vendors and demonstrators in past years, and we've seen a keen interest by vendors, new and old, signing on. I was informed

by the PSJ team that all our spots were sold out in about a week," added Mr. Thompson.

Proven Bank, has signed on as the main sponsor for the fifth consecutive year demonstrating their commitment to supporting Coco Fest and its promotion of small businesses.

"PROVEN Bank remains committed to our community and is pleased to be a part of homegrown events such as Coco Fest. We are also delighted to be a part of an initiative that contributes to preserving the heritage of the Cayman Islands and the promotion of our local Farmers and Artisans.

It is our pleasure to partner with the Tourism Attraction Board as the proud sponsor of Coco Fest 2023," said Proven Bank Senior Business Analyst, Linval Johnson.

Visitors can look forward to an array of locally cooked foods, candies, produce, games, beauty products and an arts & crafts corner hosted by the Visual Arts Society.

Live entertainment will include Missy Issy, CI Dance Company, and Pan n' Rid-dim steel band.

Entry to Coco Fest is only CI\$10 for adults and CI\$5.00 for children six to twelve. Children five and under are free. All attendees can purchase a raffle ticket with their entry and will be able to purchase more tickets at the Pedro St. James info booth.

Coco Fest will take place at Pedro St. James Great Lawn in Savannah on Saturday 18th February from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. For information, please call 947-3329 or email marketing@tab.ky.

Additional parking is located at the Savannah Play Field and the rear of the Cayman Islands Baptist Church. The TAB courtesy bus will run back and forth to these areas to shuttle patrons to the admissions gate.

Fifteen Migrants Repatriated to Cuba



Photo courtesy CBC - migrant repat flight 14 Feb 2023 Pic 2



The Cayman Islands Customs and Border Control Service (CBC) repatriated fifteen (15) migrants to the Republic of Cuba on Tuesday, 14 February 2023. The twelve (12) males and three (3) females departed on the chartered Cayman Airways 737-8

from Grand Cayman at 8:39am and arrived in Cuba at 9:23am.

Acting Director of CBC Bruce Smith stated "additional migrant repatriation flights are being coordinated for the very near future. Prompt repatriation flights are part of

the CBC's and the Cayman Islands Government's approach to managing and expediting matters involving irregular migration.

Recognizing that operations of this nature involves a significant amount of planning and resources, I wish to thank

the officers of His Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) and Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman (WORC) for their excellent collaboration which contributed to the safety and overall efficiency of the operation."

Fatal Collision in Cayman Brac

Police in Cayman Brac are currently on the scene of a fatal two-vehicle collision which occurred shortly after 1:00PM today, 14 February, near the intersection of Polack Drive and Heights Road.

The driver of one of the vehicles, an off-duty police officer, has been transported to the Faith Hospital for treatment for what appear to be non-life-threatening injuries. The passenger of the other vehicle

was uninjured. However, the driver was pronounced dead on scene by medical personnel.

RCIPS accident reconstructionists from the Traffic & Roads Policing Unit in Grand Cayman are travelling to Cayman Brac to assist in the investigation.

Polack Drive is currently closed near Heights Road, as investigations continue.

RCIPS Issues Reminder on DUIs Following Weekend Arrests

This past weekend, RCIPS officers arrested nine persons on suspicion of DUI, with eight of the arrests taking place overnight Friday, from 10 to 11 February. Four of the arrests took place following motor-vehicle collisions; two drivers were arrested with a blood alcohol reading of under 0.100%.

In one incident, the driver of a vehicle attempted to evade a check point on West Bay Road by making a sudden turn onto a side street and then fleeing on foot. However, officers were able to quickly locate the two occupants of the vehicle, who appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. Both men were arrested on suspicion of DUI.

The RCIPS is reminding the public of the importance of refraining from drinking and driving. All nine persons arrested are now facing the possibility of losing their drivers licenses for at least

one year if convicted. If any are repeat offenders, the penalties increase, and further repeat offenses carry the possibility of jail time.

In addition to the nine DUI arrests, three persons were also arrested for driving whilst disqualified over the weekend.

"We are forever vigilant, looking out for persons who potentially compromise the safety of other road users," says Superintendent Brad Ebanks. "Fortunately, only one person received minor injuries as a result of being involved in a collision and has subsequently been discharged from hospital".

RCIPS officers continue to proactively target and prosecute persons who engage in unsafe driving behaviours. As always, the best course of action is to not drink and drive. If you plan to drink, plan not to drive.

CICG Continues To Prevent Illicit Contraband from Entering Our Islands

On Sunday, 12 February, 2023, while engaged in border protection patrols to the south of Grand Cayman, the Cayman Islands Coast Guard was alerted to the presence of a single vessel of interest traveling towards the Island.

When approached, the vessel of interest increased its speed and attempted to evade the CICG Vessel, resulting in a chase. During the chase, officers onboard the CICG vessel observed that a number of packages were being thrown into the ocean by persons onboard the vessel being followed. As the CICG closed the distance between them, the operator of the vessel being followed attempted to evade capture by running his vessel into the side of the CICG vessel on three occasions.

The vessel was eventually stopped and the occupants, three males, were questioned as to their actions. During this time the vessel they were on began to take on water and eventually sunk. Having been taken onboard the CICG vessel, they were subsequently arrested on suspicion of being concerned with the importation of controlled drugs into the Islands and were then transported to shore and handed over to RCIPS. The men were subsequently taken to the Cayman Islands Hospital, as



they reported having injuries.

With the assistance of the RCIPS Air Operations Unit a number of packages were recovered from the ocean, and subsequently handed over to the RCIPS.

All three men were examined at the Cayman Islands Hospital, and released later that night. They remain in custody pending further investigation by the police.

The CICG Vessel involved in the chase, although sustaining some damage, remains operational, and luckily, none of its crew members sustained serious injuries.

UPDATE: Men Charged Following Drug Interdiction, 15 February

The three men who were arrested on Sunday have now been formally charged with one count each of Illicit Trafficking, Being Concerned in the Importation of Controlled Drugs (Ganja), Reckless and Dangerous Act, Damage to Property and Resisting or Obstructing an Arrest.

on 15 February.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Registration for Baby Show at the Agricultural Fair

Ongoing until 17 February - The Baby Show is back at the Agriculture Fair on Ash Wednesday 22 February 2023. New born babies and those up to 4 years old can be registered for the different age categories. Please contact Eziethamae Bodden at 929 - 9932 to register.

National Youth Commission Logo Competition

Ongoing until 20 February - The National Youth Commission (NYC) has launched its logo design competition. The designer(s) of the winning entry will receive a \$1,000 prize. All entries must be submitted to nyccaymanislands@gmail.com by 11.59 pm on Monday, 20 February 2023. Go to www.gov.ky/ysch for more information.

Cayman Islands National Dance Company - Free Workshop in George Town

17 February - The Cayman Islands National Dance Company is having a free Community Workshop in George Town on Friday 17 February from 6:30pm to 8pm. Anyone from ages 12 and up may attend. No prior experience is necessary. Come out, learn some moves and have lots of fun. To register, call 926 - 1826.

Coco Fest

18 February - Coco Fest at Pedro St. James is Saturday 18 February from 12pm to 6pm. There will be arts, crafts, games, music, food and demonstrations. Admission is only \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 6 and over. Children under 6 are free.

St. Alban's Church of England - February Church Services

19 February - Services of Holy Communion will be held on Sunday February 19th at 9:30am. Morning Prayers (Matins) will continue on all other Sundays at 9:30am as usual.

Agricultural Show

22 February - The Agricultural Show is back! Meet and talk with local farmers and purchase delicious produce. Fun stuff for the kids includes pony rides and face painting. Attendees can enjoy local music, try the mechanical bull and watch local craft demonstrations. Entrance cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids aged 2 to 12. Gates open at 7am and the event finishes at 4pm.

St. Alban's Church of England - Ash Wednesday Service

22 February - There will be a Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd at 9:30am at St. Alban's Church on Shedden Road. The Rt. Rev. Dr. PJ Lawrence, Bishop, will be the celebrant.

National Gallery Exhibition - Al Ebanks, Remnants of an Artist

24 February - 18 May - The National Gallery presents Al Ebanks, Remnants of an Artist. The new exhibition will run 24 Feb - 18 May. For more information, go to nationalgallery.org.ky.

St. Ignatius Fish Fry Nights

24 February - St. Ignatius Fish Fry nights are back for three Fridays only so don't miss out! Dine



► Agricultural Fair

in or carry out the delicious fried or baked fish, served with fries or rice, cole slaw, grilled onions, fritters and more! Drinks will be on sale and there will be free desserts while supplies last. Serving goes from 5pm to 7:30pm and the cost is \$15 for mahi mahi and \$17 for snapper.

De Road Callin' 5K Walk/Run

25 February - In honour of their good friend and warrior Josanny Fermin who is fighting Breast Cancer, join Cayman Carnival Batabano for their Second Annual 5K Walk/Run with a Twist. T-shirts will be provided. Feel free to wear a Carnival

T-shirt, costume, or accessory. Refreshment & prizes are included. Tickets can be purchased online at caymanactive.com or at Le Classique at the Strand for \$25.00.

Church of God Chapels - Spring Convention

26 February - 1 March - The Church of God Chapels invites all to their 87TH Annual Spring Convention under the theme "MOVE." The services begin Sunday, February 26th, at 10:30 a.m. and nightly, Sunday through Wednesday, February 26th, through March 1st, at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of God Chapel George Town. Services will be live-streamed on the Church

of God Chapel George Town, YouTube and Facebook page. Radio Cayman will broadcast the Sunday a.m. and p.m. services. During the evening services, childcare will be provided.

Welcome to the Deep Sea - A Live Presentation

28 February - You're invited to Welcome to the Deep Sea, a live presentation by the DOE's Dr. Johanna Kohler on Wednesday (28 Feb) at the Government Administration Building, room 1038 at 1:30pm.

Send your community events to wendy@caymaniantimes.ky

The single best way to achieve your goals

We are living in a have-it-all, have-it-now world. Access to anything you desire is literally a key stroke away.

There's one-click ordering. There's food delivery in 30 minutes or less. There's credit available with the swipe of a card.

More so than any time in history, we have forgotten the art of sacrifice.

Can you blame us? Mainstream marketing tells us hundreds of times each day that we should **have it all**, and that we should have it **right now**.

The problem with this have-it-all-right-now mindset is that real accomplishments require sacrifice and delayed gratification. And these real accomplishments are where true satisfaction is found.

Think about it for a moment. When was the last time that you felt proud of

something that you've done? I doubt that it was for the shoe purchase that you just one-click ordered online :) More likely it was for a big project that you tackled at work, or a meal that you cooked for your family, or an 8K (or marathon!) that you finished.

Those proud moments have one thing in common: they all required sacrifice and delayed gratification. You gave up your time, you invested your attention and efforts, you put in the miles.

And then you achieved your goal and experienced that sweet satisfaction.

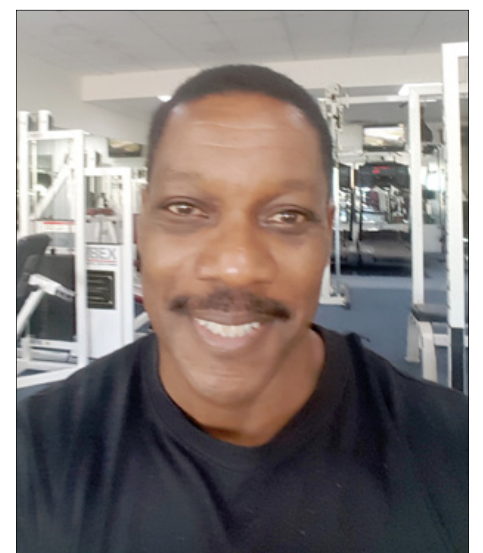
Learning how to sacrifice and delay gratification, rather than getting something right now, is a skill set. This skill set can grow as you use it more often. Just like a muscle that becomes stronger under

resistance, your ability to sacrifice your immediate needs in favor of a larger accomplishment will improve the more you use it.

Sacrifice and delayed gratification are the name of the game when it comes to getting into great shape. Get comfortable with sacrifice and you'll achieve any goal.

I know that's not what any of us want to hear. We'd prefer the one-click-to-dream-button over months of a controlled diet plan and challenging workouts. But by embracing and enhancing your ability to sacrifice you'll gain traction on all of your big life goals, including getting that dream body.

I'm here to help you achieve your fitness goals. Yes, it's going to require that you



► Ernest Ebanks

put in hard work and sacrifice, and I'll be there with you every step of the way. Call Ernest at Body Shapers Personal Training Fitness Studio 325-8696 or email me today bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com to get started.

Antigua's new migrant trouble

The Antigua and Barbuda government has a fresh problem after hundreds of West African migrants who arrived recently on Antigua Airways are seeking to stay and not return home.

The government said that hundreds of African migrants who travelled to the island in the past three months from West Africa will not be allowed citizenship, but may be offered residency and work permits.

Information Minister Melford Nicholas said on whether they would be issued with Antiguan passports: "No, I don't think that that is on the cards, but certainly the whole idea of residency and work permits, that is part of the legal framework that we are considering."

The main opposition United Progressive Party (UPP) called for a Commission of Inquiry last week to determine if the authorities are actually human trafficking after supporters staged protests against the government's decision to legalise the status of hundreds of African migrants.

Opposition Leader Jamale L. Pringle led the protest outside the office of the Prime Minister Gaston Browne. Pringle said: "There is some semblance of

human trafficking after the Cabinet said it had discussed the treatment to be meted out to the visitors who arrived on charters from West Africa.

"We are asking the government to come clean on this matter and how we can be comfortable knowing that this situation is a legitimate situation is by a public inquiry. We are now seeing over 700 persons on the ground and they are not in a comfortable position."

Nicholas said: "One of the features we have asked the Immigration (Department) to be able to do is a skills audit, to determine whether we have some additional attendant benefits to be derived from some of these persons who are here."

The Government said that 637 of over 900 people who arrived between November and January remained in Antigua. Many of them are Cameroonians fleeing civil war there. But it is unclear how many of them are seeking asylum having arrived on Antigua Airways or other chartered airlines.

The government said last week it has examined the circumstances under which the Antigua Airways flights were conceived and originated. It said the passengers were pro-

fessional citizens of Nigeria and neighbouring countries who wished to travel to the Caribbean as tourists.

A government spokesman said: "The Cabinet was informed that the visitors remaining in Antigua can be located in several small hotels and guest houses across the island. An offer to return them to their country is to be made, though many are likely to choose to stay, it was reported. Some arrangement may likely be made to ensure that their status is legal."



► African migrants are rounded up in Antigua



► The protest over how the migrants are treated

Yeah mon! Brits love JA best

Jamaica is now the No.1 destination in the Caribbean for British travellers, despite its problem with widespread violence and criminality. Black Americans love the island too and continue to visit in huge numbers.

Renowned for its warm hospitality, spectacular beauty and high-end resorts, restaurants and hotels, Jamaica continues to welcome a record number of UK visitors with 2022 visitor arrivals surpassing previous records, catapulting the island to the top spot in the Caribbean for British vacationers.

Jamaica's bullish tourism recovery plan, highlights the island's unique culture, cuisine, music, breath-taking nature, and wellness offerings in an environmentally sustainable way.

With still more room for growth and to meet rising demands, Jamaica is welcoming more celebrated hotel brands to the island growing its room stock offering another 8,500 rooms by 2025. New hotel openings will include Hard Rock Hotel, RIU, Dreams, Secrets, Planet Hollywood, Viva Wyndham, UNICO and Princess.

"We are working on our most ambitious tourism development and expansion plan in Jamaica's history to meet the continued demand and interest in our beautiful island," said, Edmund Bartlett, Minister of Tourism.

The Jamaica Tourist Board won the title of Caribbean's Leading Tourist Board 2022 at last year's World Travel Awards.

The island is easily accessible from the UK with daily direct flights on Virgin Atlantic Airways from London Heathrow launched in December 2022, British Airways from London Gatwick and TUI from Birmingham, Gatwick and Manchester.

Elizabeth Fox, Regional Director, UK & Northern Europe, said: "We are very happy that Jamaica is the top Caribbean destination of choice for travellers from the UK and would like to thank all our industry partners for their continuous support and faith in our beautiful island. Our campaign this year is 'Come Back to Jamaica', to relax, adventure, and to romance, and the Brits certainly continue to do so."

Ex-Honduras leader 'bribed' by rich family

Former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez was bribed by the country's prominent Rosenthal family, which owned a "massive" group of businesses in the Central American country, U.S. prosecutors said on Friday.

Hernandez, a former US ally who led Honduras from 2014 until January 2022, was extradited to the United States last April on charges of receiving millions of dollars from drug-trafficking organisations in exchange for protecting them from investigation and arrest. He has pleaded not guilty.

In court papers filed on Friday, prosecutors said evidence at Hernandez's trial, currently scheduled for September 18, will show that the former president "also received bribes from the Rosenthals as well as helped them obtain business contracts to launder money."

Marlon Duarte, a lawyer for the



► Juan Orlando Hernandez pleaded not guilty

Rosenthal family in Honduras, denied the allegations.








The wealthy and politically connected Rosenthal family once controlled businesses including a soccer club, an automobile importer and one of the country's largest banks through their Grupo Continental conglomerate.

The family lost control of their business empire after Honduran security forces seized 19 of the company's units in 2015 after US prosecutors accused Grupo Con-

tinental's chief, Jaime Rosenthal, and two family members of money laundering. Rosenthal died in 2019.


Rosenthal never appeared in US court. His son Yani Rosenthal and another family member, Yankel Rosenthal - both former Honduran congressmen - served US prison sentences after pleading guilty to money laundering. Both were released in 2020. Their case is separate from the charges against Hernandez.

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
						
82° / 78°	82° / 78°	81° / 77°	81° / 77°	81° / 77°	82° / 80°	81° / 81°
Mostly sunny and nice	Mostly sunny and breezy	Winds gradually subsiding	Sunshine; breezy in the p.m.	Partly sunny and delightful	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS


The family of the late **Winburn Clyde Dilbert** regret to announce her passing on February 4th, 2023.




A funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. at Ninety & Nine Outreach Ministries on Sunday, February 19th, 2023.

Viewing will be held prior to the service.

Interment will follow at Boatswain Bay Cemetery




The family of the late **Gird Vivine Rivers** regret to announce her passing on February 4th, 2023.



Left to mourn her passing are her sons Carson and Rolin Rivers sisters: Jane, Julie, Denise, and Lorraine brothers: Malcolm, Stephen, and James and their families special brother-in-law, Kenrick Gordon 6 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A graveside service will be held 4:00 p.m. at The Boatswain Bay Cemetery on Saturday, February 18th, 2023.



The family of the late **Betsy Hermena Ebanks** affectionately known as "Miss Mena", "Aunt Mena", and "Sis. Mena" regret to announce her passing on 10th of February, 2023.



A funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. at Church Of God at West Bay 108 Capt. Reginald Parsons Drive on Saturday 18th of February 2023.


Viewing will be held from 9:00 a.m. prior to the service

Interment will follow at the Boatswain Bay Cemetery.




Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Juanita Flora Ebanks, who passed away on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Churchill's Funeral Home, 328 Eastern Ave., George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Viewing: Closed Casket Interment at: Boatswain Bay Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Dencil Molloson McLean, who passed away on Wed. February 1, 2023. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Savannah United Church, Astral Way, Bodden Town, Grand Cayman on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Viewing: 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Interment at: Prospect Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

The family of the late **Lilith Freda Lazzari** regret to announce her passing on February 3, 2023.



A funeral service will be held at The Aston Ruddy Centre on at 2:00pm Sunday, February 19, 2023.

Interment will follow at the Spot Bay Cemetery.

Included in the celebration service is the Urn with ashes of her Daughter Lilith Juanita Burroughs Centanni who passed on December 29, 2022.



Churchill's Funeral Home


We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Marksteve Alcott Vernon, who passed away on Monday, February 06, 2023. A Service of Thanksgiving will take place at the New Testament Church of God, 126 N. Sound Rd., George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Viewing: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Interment: Prospect Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home


We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Darlene June Walton nee Hurlston, who passed away on Saturday, January 28, 2023. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Spot Bay Church of God (Holiness), Spot Bay Rd, Cayman Brac, Cayman Islands on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Viewing: Closed Casket Interment at: Spot Bay Cemetery (Cayman Brac)



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Audrey Barbara Scott, who passed away on Friday, February 3rd, 2023. A Service of Thanksgiving will take place at Church of God Chapel, 22 Academy Way, Walkers Rd., George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Viewing: 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Interment: Prospect Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com



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

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

©2018 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/08

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Ready for war
- 6 Stretches across
- 11 Trailblazer Daniel
- 12 Kind of pride
- 13 Winded
- 15 Exploit
- 16 — mode
- 17 Anger
- 18 Stock market category
- 20 On the — (fleeing)
- 21 Chapel seat
- 22 Baseball's Rose
- 23 Flat-nosed dogs
- 26 Factions
- 27 Concerning
- 28 Hair goo
- 29 Attempt
- 30 Shirt parts
- 34 Jazz variety
- 35 Ensign's answer
- 36 Pi follower
- 37 On the disabled list
- 40 Purloined
- 41 Nasal sound
- 42 Mails
- 43 Sneaker parts

- 1 In the area
- 2 Wake up
- 3 Roadside stop
- 4 Rock producer Brian
- 5 Mars
- 6 "Beat it!"
- 7 Bakery buy
- 8 Took advantage (of)
- 9 Fertilizer chemical
- 10 Plots
- 14 Gust
- 19 Fencing sword
- 22 Pharmacy unit
- 23 Casino worker
- 24 In transit
- 25 Super-man's home
- 26 Chooses
- 28 "The Naked Maja" painter
- 29 Casual eateries
- 30 Sans-serif typeface
- 31 River of France
- 32 Ditties
- 33 Hackneyed
- 39 Binary base

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

Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

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		

4-24

Word Search

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

- Beater
- Bowl
- Butter
- Cup
- Dish
- Dough
- Eggs
- Flour
- Fork
- Heat
- Honey
- Knife
- Margarine
- Measure
- Milk
- Mixer
- Oven
- Salt
- Spatula
- Spices
- Spoon
- Stove
- Sugar
- Water
- Yeast

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



Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

LOOK, ONION, IT'S OUR FREN', CURTIS W/MPKINS!
OH NO! DERRICK AND ONION!
I HEAR YO' MAMA'S SO DUMB, SHE SOLD THE CAR FOR GAS MONEY!
C'MON, DERRICK, HE AIN'T GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOR!
YOU'LL SEE ME CRACKIN' UP THE DAY THEY LOCK YOU HYENAS UP!

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee

HELP! THESE THINGS ARE ABOUT TO DEVOUR ME!
DON'T WORRY, MAN.
I WOULDN'T WANT 'EM TO GET INDIGESTION!
SNAPT

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

I CAN'T GO BACK OUT THERE! GODIVA DANLUBE, THE ACTRESS, IS AT MY TABLE!
YOU MEAN THE REALLY ATTRACTIVE BLONDE AT TABLE 6?
OKAY, HOW DOES THAT HELP ME?
YOU? NOT SO MUCH. ME, A LITTLE BIT.
SO WHAT'S THE BACKSTORY HERE?

GAS PRICES

Gas Prices as at Tuesday 7 February 2023



Location	Gas Station	Regular	Premium	Diesel
East End	Eastern Star Rubis (Woody's)	5.37	n/a	6.19
NorthSide	Jack's Esso (Jack's II)	5.64	5.78	6.13
Bodden Town	Lorna's Rubis	5.35	5.62	5.9
Bodden Town	Mostyns Esso	5.67	5.82	5.61
Savannah	Savannah Rubis	5.25	5.6	5.91
Red Bay	Barcam	5.64	5.78	5.59
Red Bay	On The Run (Brown's Red Bay)	5.64	5.78	5.59
George Town	Peanuts	5.22	5.53	5.74
George Town	Jose's Escape	5.31	5.61	5.91
George Town	Refuel	5.07	5.49	5.49
George Town	Esso Tigermart 4 Way Stop (JS)H&B 11	5.64	5.78	6.18
George Town	Eastern Avenue Rubis	5.37	5.57	5.9
George Town	Walkers Rd. Rubis	5.34	5.65	5.99
George Town	On The Run (Mike's Walkers Rd.)	5.64	5.78	6.11
George Town	On The Run (Brown's Industrial Park)	5.64	5.78	5.59
George Town	On The Run (Mike's 7 Mile)	5.64	5.78	6.11
West Bay Rd.	H & B Esso (H&B 1 Seven Mile)	5.64	5.78	6.13
West Bay Rd.	7 Mile Rubis (AA 7 Mile)	5.25	5.57	5.85
West Bay	Hell Esso	5.64	5.78	6.11
West Bay	Esso 4 Way Stop (Four Winds)	n/a	n/a	n/a
George Town	Scotts Landing	5.59	n/a	5.64
Cayman Brac	West End	n/a	5.8	5.8
Cayman Brac	Tib Mart	n/a	6	n/a
Little Cayman	Village Square	n/a	7.29	7.65

Lowest Prices	Grand Cayman	5.07	5.49	5.49
Highest Prices	Grand Cayman	5.67	5.82	6.19

FUEL EXPENSE REDUCTION



Frequent and fast acceleration – Avoid heavy acceleration and drive below the speed limit. Frequent and swift acceleration burns fuel at a faster rate.



Additional Weight – Empty your car trunk of heavy items that can be located elsewhere. Your vehicle will use more fuel when carrying heavier loads.



Vehicle Replacement – Consider replacing your vehicle with a fuel efficient model.