

# Taymanian 11111CS



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### INSIDE

GOVERNMENT — page 3



Premier: Banks won't budge on interest rates

.....

CT BUSINESS — page 5



HR professionals learn how to attract/retain talent

EDUCATION — page 11



UCCI'S INAUGURAL VOCATIONAL CAREER FAIR AND SYMPOSIUM



# Darren McLean completes helicopter pilot training

RCIPS Auxiliary Constable Darren McLean has officially completed his secondment at National Helicopter Services Ltd (NHSL) in Trinidad & Tobago and

is now qualified as a single-pilot captain, a major milestone in his progress to become the first Caymanian helicopter pilot in the RCIPS Air Operations Unit (AOU).

Although he faced difficulties, Darren's time with National Helicopters has un-

SEE DARREN MCLEAN, PAGE 6



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### **Education Minister's Child Month** Message

#### By Minister for Education, the Honourable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly

As we celebrate another Child Month. I wish to appeal to parents, teachers and the rest of the Cayman Islands community to commit to protecting and educating our nation's children.

Our children are our greatest assets. And as a nation, it is imperative for those of us charged with responsibility for their care to create a safe, nurturing environment that fosters their growth and development into responsible citizens.

Despite this fact, child abuse and mistreatment cases are still far too prevalent, which suggests that we have not yet managed to create a safe environment for ALL children.

The Ministry of Education fully supports this year's Child Month theme, "Investing in Our Children Means Investing in

It is well-known that, over the years, we have invested heavily in teaching and learning resources. We have done this to improve the educational opportunities presented to our students.

However, we also recognise that it is essential to invest in developing resources that will guarantee a safe learning environment for every child under our care.

To this end, we have worked diligently to institute National policies for educa-



▶ Juliana O'Connor-Connolly

tional institutions outlining code of conduct expectations for adults, safe environment requirements, and a framework for the mandate to report suspicions of child abuse and neglect.

We are also dedicated to preparing individuals working and volunteering in educational institutions to quickly identify and respond to signs of abuse.

Since 2021, approximately 2,700 people have completed our online child safeguarding training, and almost 1,300 have completed the in-person module.

However, we cannot do it alone.

As a society, our collective duty is to place our children's well-being and holistic growth at the forefront of our priorities.

So, I urge all parents, guardians and other caregivers to let us all work together to create a safe environment for our nation's

In so doing, you must be vigilant, set up child-friendly spaces, engage in open conversations with your children, and listen carefully to their concerns.

Additionally, if you believe a child is being abused or neglected, please don't hesitate to contact the Child Protection Officer assigned to your child or ward's school or centre. They will then report the matter to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for investigation.

To our Child Protection Officers and the members of the MASH, I thank you for ensuring matters of child abuse are handled with priority.

I likewise express my gratitude to the countless other educators, government agencies, NGOs, parents, and caregivers who tirelessly champion the well-being of our children.

The Ministry of Education will continue to partner with you as we work to safeguard the welfare of our children and foster an atmosphere conducive to their continuous growth and achievement. So that one day, they can develop into self-assured, well-educated individuals who can make valuable contributions to our country's economic growth, productivity, and competitiveness.





### YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!

Public Consultation Timeframe: 1 May to 30 June 2023



To download the Policy, visit: www.gov.ky/climatechangepolicy



Feedback can be emailed to climate@gov.ky or via digital survey at www.gov.ky/climatechangepolicy

#### Townhall Meetings:

### Cayman Brac

26 May at 4 p.m. Aston Rutty Civic Centre

#### West Bay

6 June at 6 p.m. Sir John A. Cumber Primary School

### **Bodden Town**

8 June at 6 p.m. Theoline L. McCoy Primary School

### North Side

15 June 6 p.m. Craddock Ebanks Civic Centre

#### Little Cayman

27 May at 10:30 a.m. Little Cayman Beach Resort

#### George Town

7 June at 6 p.m. University College of the Cayman Islands

#### East End

13 June at 6 p.m. William Allen McLaughlin Civic Centre

### Did the Cayman Islands revenue on export of services increase or decrease?

**Business Survey 2023** 

Your Response Matters!

The annual Balance of Payments (BOP) Survey collects information necessary in recording the Cayman Islands residents' foreign transactions with the rest of the world.

In 2021, total foreign exchange revenue from Cayman's export of services totaled CI \$2.8 billion.

Foreign Exchange Revenue from Services in 2021, CI\$Million

The survey runs from April 11th to June 16th, 2023.

Data collected for the BOP survey is CONFIDENTIAL under the Statistics Act (2016 Revision) and is EXEMPT from the Freedom of Information Act.

Better Data...Better Decisions...Better Business

For assistance or enquiries, please check www.eso.ky or call 244-4600.



## caymanian

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### Premier: Banks won't budge on interest rates

## Statement from Premier and Minister for Finance & Economic Development Hon. G. Wayne Panton, MP, JP On Interest Rates

All of us in the Cayman Islands have been impacted by the rising cost of living in our Islands. Prices have increased across the board, with food, utilities, gas, accommodation, and other basic necessities of life becoming more and more expensive.

I recognise, as I think most people do, that in this period of global high inflation and rising cost of living, few of the drivers originate in Cayman.

As a market dependent on the importation of essential goods, including food and fuel, we are often at the mercy of soaring costs that we have no control over. This is but one of the unique challenges of being a non-manufacturing, service-based economy.

While there is very little we can do locally as a Government to control the cost of food, fuel and other consumables, there are some areas in which we could have influence and rely on local discretion.

One of these is the decision to increase local interest rates. Higher interest rates increase the price of borrowing and drive housing costs up by adding to property owners' mortgage payments every month, which affects both home owners and renters.

Interest rate hikes also impact small business owners, and their higher costs then get passed on to consumers – who have no real notice of these price increases and then are unable to prepare and adjust. And honestly, sometimes they just can't adjust because their budgets are too tight to have room for increases.

While local banks have historically immediately increased interest rates in tandem with rate hikes by the US Federal Reserve (the Fed), which sets the "prime" or "base" interest rate for borrowing, there is no reason why this must be the case.

Indeed, banks in our fellow British Overseas Territory of Bermuda do not automatically increase their prime rate in tandem with US Federal Reserve increas-

With this in mind, I have met and corresponded with the Cayman Islands Bankers Association twice over the past year to ask that the local retail banks implement delays in rate increases and other measures to mitigate the impact on both homeowners and businesses.

In June of last year, I met the bankers and asked them to consider adding a longer notice period before increasing interest rates. The rationale behind this request was to give people more time to adapt, to plan and adjust their monthly budgets to better handle the higher cost implications.

At that time, the banks responded to the request justifying why they felt it was necessary to increase rates immediately. Only one bank was willing to agree, and they applied a delayed implementation period, but since the other banks did not follow suit, they discontinued it.

I have written to the Cayman Islands Bankers Association again this month with the same request, and the banks have once again collectively refused to consider this simple mitigation measure.

Given this refusal, I would like to publicly register both my disappointment in their position to date and also my expec-



► Hon. Premier Wayne Panton

tation that they will engage in further dialogue with Government to determine how best to alleviate the impact of future rate increases.

I also honestly do hope they will reconsider their position regarding the proposed 60-day implementation delay on interest rate increases and also re-examine the policy of automatic local rate increases every time the Fed raises the US Prime Rate.

Although my efforts in this respect have not yet met with success, I would like to assure the Caymanian public that the campaign does not end here.

The banks are insisting that their residential mortgage portfolios are not "degrading", however, my colleagues and I are continually hearing from constituents that their mortgage payments have increased to an unsustainable degree – in some cases up to \$1,000 or more per month. This is a huge increase that might negatively impact any family in these times.

We must guard against Caymanian homeowners potentially losing their homes due to the inability to meet increased interest charges.

Additionally, my colleagues and I in Cabinet will be considering other measures to help Cayman's consumers get through this inflationary period. We already have some initiatives coming up that will help to some degree.

Through the Ministry of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency, the Government will be offering two programmes to help reduce energy costs. The first is a "do-it-yourself" energy audit programme, and the next is a programme whereby eligible Caymanians may apply to have their homes audited, and if they qualify, have their air conditioning systems retrofitted to decrease energy consumption. More details on these efforts will be shared soon.

The Government will also be funding, in partnership with Inspire Cayman training, free financial planning workshops for consumers to help them navigate this high inflationary period by adjusting and containing their costs where possible. These workshops will be offered across all districts of the Cayman Islands, free of charge to participants.

I have offered these workshops in my constituency of Newlands and the adjoining constituency of Savannah and have received rave reviews from participants who found that it helped them to manage their insurance costs, borrowing costs, and oth-

er necessary household expenditures.

In the absence of cooperation from the retail banks on providing implementation delays on interest rate increases, I would encourage all borrowers to investigate fixed rate mortgage options and to maintain open lines of communication with their lending institutions.

There is hope on the horizon, as most economists predict that the current trend of increasing interest rates is nearing its peak, and rates should start falling soon.

In the meanwhile, your Government recognises our responsibility to make every effort we can to mitigate the current cost of living crisis that is negatively impacting thousands of hard working, diligent Caymanians.

In the absence of the cooperation that we'd hoped for from the retail banks, we will endeavor to find other ways to effectively alleviate the stress that the rising cost of living is creating for Caymanian families.



17 May, 2023

Mr. Richard Lewis Chief Operating Officer Cayman Islands Bankers' Association P.O. Box 676 Grand Cayman KY1-1107 Cayman Islands

Via EMAIL

Re: Steps to Mitigate the Automatic and Immediate Interest Rake Hikes

Dear Mr. Lewis,

When I met with the local retail banks (the banks) last June, I asked the representatives of those banks to consider extending the notice period given to borrowers before implementing increases in a) the local lending interest rates charged on loans and mortgages, and b) other discretionary fees charged by banks.

You penned a reply on their behalf dated June 29<sup>th</sup> which stated that, at the time, the local banks felt it was 'unnecessary to implement the requested changes' because they had not seen any 'material deterioration in the quality' of their respective loan portfolios and concluded that a 'blanket approach was not warranted'.

In the 12 months since that meeting, the cost of living has risen sharply – food prices, fuel prices and electricity prices. The Cayman Islands is facing unusually high and sustained inflation, most of which is imported as the cost drivers are outside local control.

However, there is one cost driver where we can exert some local influence and directly help contain the rate of

Interest rates are driving up housing costs, and housing costs are one of the top three expenses for the majority of households. The cost of borrowing impacts housing costs, for homeowners with mortgages and for renters whose landlords have mortgages or loans on the rental property.

Similarly, where local businesses have commercial loans, the cost of higher interest rates will be passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. Taken together, higher interest rates can have a significant inflationary impact on the cost of living for Caymanians.

Interest rates are at a 16-year high and this is unsustainable for most borrowers. Local rates have increased TEN times in the past 14 months. Local banks choose to increase interest rates on mortgages and consumer loans in tandem with the US Federal interest rates, often with less than three business days' notice to consumers. By their very nature fixed deposits have interest rates that are fixed for the period of the deposit, and changes to the interest rate usually occur only at the time of maturation; therefore, deposit holders typically do not benefit from the immediate increases in interest rates for at least 30 days.

As a Government, we have a responsibility to make every effort to contain costs for the health of our economy and mitigate the escalating cost of living crisis that is hurting thousands of hard working, diligent Caymanians. Therefore, I am writing once again to ask the local banks to exercise discretion and to act in ways to help slow down the rate of inflation.

Specifically, I am asking the local banks to provide borrowers with a minimum of sixty days' notice before implementing increases in the lending interest rates and increases to other discretionary fees and charges

Further, I am also formally requesting that the local banks reconsider the formula used to set the local CI prime rate with a view to using a rate lower than the New York Fed rate and lowering the margins used above the CI prime rate.

For illustration, the US Federal Rate is now 5.25% thus making the New York Prime Rate – and in effect the CI Prime Rate – 8.25%. Loans are then offered with an additional margin of approximately 1%-3% (effectively a rate of 9.25% to 11.25%) depending on the borrower's profile for majority of the borrowers.

These are unusual times and for the long-term prosperity of our shared Cayman Islands, I am asking the local banks to share in the responsibility to contain inflation and support a sustainable, shared prosperity across our islands.

I would be grateful if you could distribute this to your members immediately and ask for a response to be provided to me by close of business Monday, May  $22^{nd}$ .

G. Wayne Panton, JP, MP
Premier and Minister of Finance & Economic Development

### Ministry of Financial Services & Commerce showcases Cayman strengths to leading Asian stakeholders



Minister for Financial Services & Commerce Hon. Andre Ebanks, CI Government representative to Asia Gene DaCosta, and Cayman Finance CEO Steve McIntosh with members of the team at the Walkers Hong Kong office.

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▶ Minister for Financial Services & Commerce Hon. Andre Ebanks, CI Government representative to Asia Gene DaCosta, and Cayman Finance CEO Steve McIntosh, with Maples Partner Ann Ng, at the Maples Group cocktail reception in Hong Kong.

A team from the Ministry of Financial Services & Commerce completed an engagement trip to Hong Kong and Singapore last week, to bolster relationships with financial services industry stakeholders and engage various authorities in Hong Kong and Singapore; as well as promote the Cayman Islands advanced intellectual property (IP) framework at the International Trademark Association (INTA) 2023 Annual Meeting (the world's top IP forum) held in Singapore 16-20 May 2023.

Minister for Financial Services & Commerce Hon. Andre Ebanks led a multi-faceted team including Cayman Islands Government representative to Asia Gene DaCosta, Deputy Chief Officer Kathryn Dinspel-Powell, Director of the Cayman Islands Intellectual Property Office Candace Westby, and IP Registry Officer Omara Whittaker.

Minister Ebanks and Mr. DaCosta were in Hong Kong from 14 May to 15 May, and joined the Cayman Islands Intellectual Property Office (CIIPO) team in Singapore on 16 May for attendance at the INTA meeting.

While in Hong Kong, Minister Ebanks and Mr. DaCosta engaged Hong Kong authorities regarding the requirements to operate a physical office in Hong Kong. The Minister and Mr DaCosta also attended a number of key stakeholder meetings and roundtables with law firms and industry associations to share updates on pertinent financial services developments and gather market insights and trends. Cayman Finance CEO Steve McIntosh and other local representatives of the Cayman Islands' financial services industry worked in parallel with the Ministry team to organise and attend other networking and industry events with leading Hong Kong based stakeholders.

In Singapore, in addition to attendance at the INTA meeting, Minister Ebanks and Mr. DaCosta engaged with local officials, agencies and law firms on matters related to operating a Cayman Islands Government office in Singapore (as an alternative to Hong Kong). The Minister and Mr DaCosta also met with one of Singapore's Sovereign Wealth Funds and a connected wealth management institute concerning

how to train and upscale local homegrown talent in the wealth management space.

Attendance at the INTA meeting was important to raise the international profile of the CIIPO, the thriving local intellectual property sector, and of the Cayman Islands' commitment to advancing IP rights.

The event was attended by more than 7,000 delegates from around the world, and the Ministry of Financial Services & Commerce sponsored the conference's Latin American and Caribbean reception, which showcased the work of CIIPO and to connect with IP attorneys and administrators from across the region.

Also in Singapore, the Ministry partnered with Cayman Finance to host a networking event at the National Museum of Singapore on 18 May which gathered representatives from Cayman Finance member firms, their clients, and representatives from the British High Commission (Singapore) to discuss the latest developments and opportunities in Cayman's financial services sector.

The evening served as an opportunity for the Cayman Islands delegation to

connect with member firms in Singapore, business leaders, and other partners in the industry.

Minister Ebanks said, "The week in Hong Kong and Singapore was very informative, provided strong stakeholder engagement, and was educational in a variety of meaningful ways. There are several opportunities in Asia for enhancing Cayman's financial industry's market share, as well as gaining insight into various developments in Asia and how Cayman could provide solutions, and learning of methods to cultivate local talent and address certain local challenges. Overall, it was a very productive trip which built upon an already solid foundation and inspired potential future collaboration for the mutual benefit of our respective communities."

Mr. DaCosta said, "I am looking forward to being based in Asia to support our financial services firms and their clients, as well as work in partnership with counterpart Asian government officials to maximise opportunities to take our respective countries from strength to strength."



▶ While in Hong Kong, Minister for Financial Services & Commerce Hon. Andre Ebanks and CI Government representative to Asia Gene DaCosta met with representatives of Invest Hong Kong, the department of the Hong Kong SAR Government responsible for Foreign Direct Investment, supporting overseas businesses to set up and expand in Hong Kong.



L-R: Cayman Islands Government representative to Asia Gene DaCosta, CEO of Cayman Finance Steve McIntosh, Connie Wong, Managing Director of Waystone, Minister for Financial Services & Commerce Hon. Andre Ebanks and Niaz Khan, CEO of Waystone at the Cayman Finance event in Singapore.

### RUBiS Top Student 2023 Awards Celebrate Exceptional Young Talent in the Cayman Islands

Rubis Service Stations witnessed an incredible showcase of talent and passion as the RUBiS Top Student (RTS) 2023 Awards concluded its fifth edition with great success. This esteemed competition, aimed at recognizing, and rewarding young students, has once again highlighted the outstanding achievements of children across the islands. The event brought together 80 participants from various public and private schools in Cayman Brac and Grand Cayman, culminating in a selection of 18 remarkable finalists.

The RUBiS Top Student Awards programme, held biennially, provides a platform for students aged 7-12 to demonstrate their enthusiasm and devotion towards their passions, be it fine arts, performing arts, sports, STEM activities, or academic excellence in a 90-second video. With a total of \$28,000 worth of prizes, the competition was fierce as participants vied for the opportunity to be recognised and supported in their pursuits.

To determine the winners, the RUBiS Top Student entries were evaluated through a combination of public voting and a rigorous assessment by a judging panel. After careful deliberation, the top three performers emerged, standing out for their unwavering ambition. It is with great pleasure that we announce the following standout achievers:

#### RTS Winner:

Name: Matthew Moore Grant Amount: \$7,000

Second Place:

Name: Zayden Abrahams Grant Amount: \$5,000

Third Place:

Name: Yuvraj Graham Campbell



Grant Amount: \$2,000

The RUBIS Top Student Awards programme also values inclusivity and support for special needs students. As part of their commitment, two of the grants have been explicitly designated for special needs students who participated in the competition.

Moreover, recognizing the importance of giving back, this year's grand prize winner, Matthew Moore, will have the opportunity to donate \$1,000 to the school or club of his choice. This gesture ensures that other students can continue to benefit from the RUBiS Top Student Awards programme and pursue their personal passions.

The Hon. Bernie Bush, Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage was in attendance as a special patron. "As an invited guest to the Awards Ceremony, it was a pleasure to see so many of our young students participate in the Rubis Top Student Awards again this year. It is amazing to see the many talents and abilities of our young people in sports, in the classrooms, the arts and throughout our communities. I can see how this program serves to give our students the ability to see beyond tomorrow and work towards their full potential. We as individuals, teachers, coaches and mentors must encourage and celebrate the wins of our young

people, empowering them to rise to that potential," shared the Minister.

Rubis Director Andres Barthel sincerely congratulates all the finalists who demonstrated great talent and passion throughout the competition. Their dedication and accomplishments stands as proof of their hard work and the invaluable support they receive from their loved ones, teachers, and mentors

For more information about the RUBiS Top Student 2023 Awards and its commitment to recognising and amplifying young talent in the Cayman Islands, please visit www.rubiscaymanislands.com.

### HR professionals learn how to attract/retain talent

### By Lindsey Turnbull

Three hundred human resources professionals gathered Friday at the Kimpton Seafire for their annual conference and learned some crucial advice as to how to attract and retain talent in their organisations. The conference was produced by the CISHRP (Cayman Islands Society for Human Resources Professionals) and had a packed day of presentations for members by international and local HR professionals. This year's theme was: 'We are H.U.M.A.N. - Heroes. United. Mindful. Authentic. Nurturing.' and looked at the different aspects encompassed in an HR professional's role.

CISHRP President Valentine Ball said the purpose of the event was two-fold.

"Firstly, we want to provide the opportunity for our HR society to meet and network and talk to their peers, share their knowledge, and share their thoughts on what is HR today. Secondly, we wanted to bring in international and local speakers to talk through some of the challenges that HR is experiencing at a global and local level."

International speakers came from the US, Canada and the UK, and brought with them international knowledge, while local speakers talked more specifically about the Cayman challenges that HR professionals were seeing, Ms Ball advised.



▶ Valentine Ball, CISHRP President

Speakers included: Steven Manning, CEO of Walkers Professional Services; Dallas Dralle Shetler, a licensed counselor with Infinite Mindcare; Doug Soares, CEO of Bermuda and Cayman-based HR and payroll services firm Expertise Group; Becky Luttbeg Director, Total Health with Marsh McLennan Agency; HR Professional Emma Graham-Taylor; Jen Skinner, regional Talent/Human Resources Leader for Deloitte in the Caribbean and Bermuda; Cindy Blekaitis, Programme Manager of the Employee Assistance Programme; and

Olwyn Downey, global HRD Walkers Professional Services based in Dublin.

Ms ball advised that the two main challenges faced by local HR employees were how to forge a new generation of workforce in the Cayman Islands and also how to ensure that well-being of staff was something that was spoken of within an organisation.

"These two topics are what brings so many of our attendees to our conference every year," she advised. "This year we have sold out at 300 attendees, which is one of our biggest conferences so far."

Attendees came from all sorts of businesses, from small businesses to global firms, as well as a good number of government attendees, and from all different industries, including law firms, accountancy firms and then some smaller firms where there may be just one person in HR.

"We try to cater to all of them," Ms Ball said.

Even though attendees come from different sized firms within different industries, she believed that everyone who came to the conference would be able to find solutions and take-aways from the presentations.

"This is why we try to bring in different speakers so that anyone can take what they need for their organisations and really lead them to success," she stated. Subjects such as employee-retention were hot topics on the agenda.

"We just had a speaker talking about compensation strategy which is a huge topic here on the island, especially with the cost of living," Ms Ball said. "In addition, we had someone speak about how to work with potential anxieties that people are experiencing right now, especially with the new hybrid working environment (working from home/working in the office)"

Ms Ball said that HR professionals were seeing a lot more stress in employees, so they were looking at how they could find solutions to the problem and also try to define what the organisation's responsibility was.

"We want to see what can we do that brings the leaders into the conversation as opposed to it just being an HR-related topic," she explained.

Another speaker talked about the future of HR and what technology would look like within the industry, what the role of HR looked like with new technology. The day ended with a fireside chat around the topic of the new generation and how HR professionals could attract them, retain them, and keep them engaged.

"We looked at what were some of the HR solutions that can be put in place in this respect," she confirmed.



▶ CoP Byrne presents AC Darren McLean with his pilot's wings.



► AC Darren McLean and CoP Byrne.

### Darren McLean completes helicopter pilot training

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

doubtedly been a success.

"I am confident that Darren was exposed to as wide a variety of conditions that our type of operation would allow, and he performed admirably," says General Manager of NHSL, Captain Homer Solomon. "I am certain that his experience here with us has placed him on a solid footing for the next phase of his development."

During his secondment, Darren accrued over 1,000 hours twin turbine flight time, and completed over 3,000 takeoffs and landings. Many of these takeoffs and landings were done on oil rigs, which often present particularly challenging conditions. The types of missions he flew ranged from simple personnel transports to more urgent medevacs.

"The operations that meant the most to me were always the ones where I was able to help save someone's life," says Darren.



► AC Darren McLean.

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"At various times we were responsible for transporting victims of motor-vehicle collisions, persons with gunshot wounds, and even premature babies. It is a different experience flying with someone's life on the line, and I was grateful to be able to help people in this way."

While gaining this experience flying for NHSL as part of a two-pilot crew, Darren has had the opportunity to fly with and learn from other experienced pilots, and benefitted from the lessons they were able to impart, and the support they offered while flying operations together. Now Darren is moving on to the next stage, and will spend the next year flying operations as a single-pilot captain for Helicentre Aviation in the UK. This means that, when it comes to anything relating to the flying itself, he will be solely responsible for making all the decisions when conducting opera-

"During my time at NHSL Captain Solomon always told me that my goal should be to take the best of all the pilots I fly

SEE DARREN MCLEAN, Page 7



### POLICE NEWS

### **Darren McLean**

CONTINUED FROM Page 6

with," says Darren, "and so I will be taking the lessons I learned from them into this new experience."

In addition to allowing Darren to gain the necessary single-pilot captain hours to qualify to pilot for the RCIPS AOU, this secondment will also allow him to gain experience flying in different weather conditions, over different terrain, and in a much busier airspace. All of this will serve him well when he returns to Cayman to take up his post as AOU helicopter pilot.

"We are very pleased that Darren has reached this milestone and look forward to his continued progress in the UK over the coming year," says head of the RCIPS AOU, Inspector Neil Mohammed. "We know it has been a long journey for him, but he has never wavered or given less than 100%, and his hard work will continue to pay off. We are also grateful to our partners in National Helicopter Services Ltd for working with us to help develop this unprecedented program, and look forward to continuing to build our relationship with them."

"It was a pleasure working alongside the RCIPS in what was in so many ways a ground-breaking initiative," says Captain Solomon. "While a lot of planning went into it, Darren's attitude and aptitude also made the process easier, as he was always willing to adapt to whatever challenges came his way."

"The future is very bright for Darren as he begins this next step," says Commissioner of Police Derek Byrne, who also presented Darren with his pilot's wings in recognition of his successes thus far. "He is not only on the verge of being our first Caymanian police helicopter pilot, he is also serving as an example for other Caymanians who may one day follow in his footsteps.

"Once again, we thank our partners in National Helicopter Services Ltd for working with us on this initiative, and the Cayman Islands Government for their continued support."



▶ AC Darren McLean with RCIPS AOU Pilot Captain Jonathan Wade (left) and Inspector Neil Mohammed (right).



▶ AC Darren McLean on his last day at NHSL, with Director of Operations Captain Marcel Wharwood.

### Public Advisory: Police Warn About Text Message and Phone Scams

Police have received reports of persons receiving text messages with links, that when clicked, triggers a phone call from persons claiming to be from a bank or financial institution.

The callers have been informing persons of fraudulent activities in their accounts and requesting banking details to assist with solving the problem.

The RCIPS is informing the public that this type of engagement could potentially be a scam, and the public should not click links in text messages from numbers you are not familiar with, and to be vigilant when speaking with persons over the phone.

Remember that banking and other financial institutions would not ask for banking details over the phone. If you are suspicious of the call you've received then walk into the institution yourself and speak with a representative to verify the call. Do not give personal and banking details over a phone call.

Anyone who believes they may have received one of this fraudulent phone calls are encouraged to report the incident to their financial institutions. Anyone with information about these phone calls are encouraged to submit a tip via the RCIPS website at www.rcips.ky<http://www.rcips.ky>.



### Cayman Mermaid damage mitigated



The Cayman Islands Coast Guard has reported that between May 17th and 20th, they partnered with the Department of Environment (DoE) in a joint effort to mitigate the potential spread of fuel and oil from a submerged vessel in the Governor's

Creek area.

Thanks to the swift action of the DoE team in deploying a containment boom, they believe that they helped to avert any further negative impact on the marine environment.



They have reminded boat operators that the boomed off area should not be crossed, and individuals should refrain from attempting to board the vessel. Doing so may compromise the integrity of the containment boom and could lead to

the release of fuel and oil into the surrounding area.

The have asked for the cooperation and understanding of the public in ensuring the effectiveness of their environmental protection efforts.

# Cayman Islands to Host Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC) Conference



The Cayman Islands will host the upcoming Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC) 45th conference from 7th – 9th June 2023.

CCLEC is a regional organisation that promotes cooperation among Customs and Law Enforcement Agencies in the Caribbean region. This conference will bring together Customs officials from various countries within the Caribbean as well as from the United Kingdom, the United States, Spain, and the Netherlands to discuss regional challenges and share best practices. Approximately 50 delegates are expected to attend the conference.

The Cayman Islands is honoured to host this important event, which provides another opportunity for the region's Customs officials to collaborate and strengthen relationships regionally and internationally. The conference will focus on important topics such as trade facilitation, border security, and the fight against illicit trade.

Hosting the CCLEC conference and associated business meetings is a significant achievement for the Cayman Islands, demonstrating our commitment to regional cooperation and leadership in Customs and law enforcement generally. The conference is expected to positively

impact the local economy, with delegates and their families staying in local hotels, dining in local restaurants, and participating in local activities. CBC Director Charles Clifford said, "The Cayman Islands has served on the CCLEC Executive Committee for many years which is indicative of our commitment to regional cooperation. I am pleased to announce that during the opening ceremony, CCLEC will honour former Collector of Customs Carlon Powery, MBE, JP, for his long and distinguished service to Customs in the region."

He further stated, "We are excited to welcome CCLEC members and our other international partners to the Cayman Islands and showcase our country's Customs and law enforcement capabilities. This conference provides an opportunity to strengthen relationships with our regional and international partners while sharing best practices in Customs enforcement. We are certainly looking forward to a productive and successful conference and to extending our Caymankind hospitality to the delegates during their stay with us."

The CCLEC 45th conference will be held at the Westin Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa in Grand Cayman. Visit www.cbc.gov.ky for more information.



### Geary and Team Strike a Chord Internationally

#### **By Stuart Wilson**

Musician James Geary has launched a new series of international shows, which includes other artists from the scene in Grand Cayman traveling to destinations and taking the Island's culture.

In addition to music, the one night only shows feature food, as well as beverages and other unique products from the Cayman Islands

Starting at the Yeelen X venue in Miami, the first show involved enlisting the services of top Djs and artists from both Cayman and overseas and what started as a trip to Miami to get supplies and seek out new opportunities is now growing into plans for three more events in different countries.

"I always had a desire to do this and initially I was going to Miami to pick up a keyboard and do an open mic, until someone sent me a link to a venue and told me that I could buy it out, so that's what I did," said Mr. Geary.

As a result of that decision, James enlisted the services of Walshy Fire, a top Dj from Jamaica living in the Miami area, as well as LL Cool Blaze, one to the top Afro-Caribbean Djs, in addition to booking the Yeelen X venue in Miami and then soliciting sponsorship.

Other Caymanian artists to make the trip included Brent McLean, Shenna Lee, Audrey

Destune, Brent McLean, Jimmeh the Boss and Georgie Duarte.

The Miami show also featured chefs from the Cayman Islands, with all of the performers and accompaniment being provided with rentals and accommodation for the night.

Sponsors for the event included the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, who provided Tortuga Rum Cakes and paraphernalia, as well as a representative for the evening, Seven Fathoms Rum, Stoaked Cayman, Everything 345, Napa, Cayman Cabana, Women in White, Tia's Table, Honey Grazed, Dulcet One, and Technie & Scribe.

Part proceeds from the event were donated to Let Me Live and Care Elementary.

There are now plans in the works for three more events, the first of which will take place in New York on 8th June, and others schedule for Trinidad, Tobago and Jamaica.

Artist joining James Geary for the New York leg of the James Geary and friend include Stuart Wilson, Jimmeh the Boss, Rico Rolando, Danny Banks and many more, including sound technician and DJ Jerry Kandiah (Buss Adjusta), as well as radio personalities and other notable members of the Island's entertainment industry.

The team from Cayman will be joined by top radio DJs and entertainment insiders from the New York and Tri-state area.



▶ James Geary departing Cayman Islands for Miami for the James Geary and Friends show in Miami

### **HSA** updates visitation policy

The Health Services Authority (HSA) has updated COVID-19 patient and general visitation policy as per recommendations from the COVID-19 Taskforce which are based on updated science supported by local COVID trends, and regional and international epidemiology. Changes to the policy are effective immediately.

The new visitation policy states:

#### Mask

The wearing of masks remains mandatory around patients with suspected or documented risk of COVID-19 infection, however no longer necessary in the HSA except in the following areas: dialysis, oncology, ICU/CCU, NICU and operating theatres.

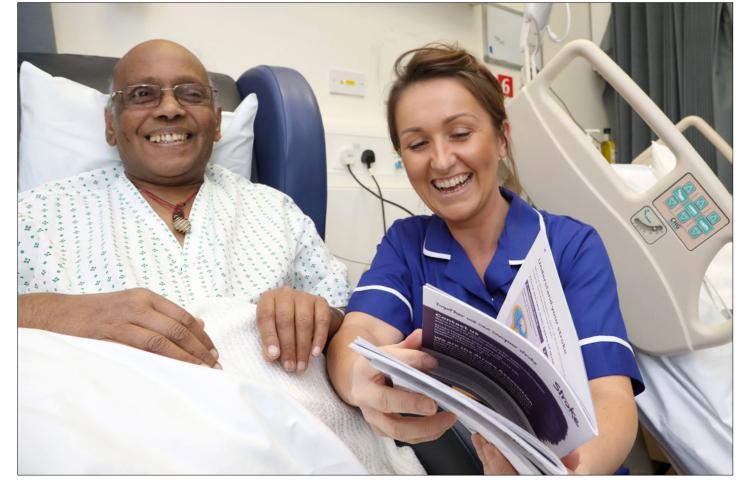
Patients or visitors presenting with COVID-19 or flu symptoms will be asked to wear a mask.

### Visitors are now allowed to visit COVID-19 patients:

- A maximum of 2 visitors may be allowed at any one time.
- Visitors must wear a mask provided by the hospital.
- Visitors must adhere to strict hand hygiene.
- Visitors are not allowed to visit any other part of the hospital after leaving the patient's room.
- Visitors may still choose to participate in video visits as an alternative.

#### **General Visitation Policy:**

- Visiting Hours are 11am 8pm daily (except for Critical Care and Paediatric Unit).
- Patients are allowed (2) visitors at a time.
- Visitors under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult.



• Visitors must check in and out at the main atrium information desk (A&E visitors should still use the A&E entrance). A government issued photo ID is required (eg. passport, driver's license, voter's card, work ID)

• Visitors must follow hand hygiene guidelines.

Critical Care Unit - Visiting hours are 11am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm. One (1) or

two (2) persons may visit at a time for 15 minutes, unless special permission is granted

Paediatric Unit - Visiting hours are 8am - 8pm. Patients are allowed (2) visitors at a time. One (1) parent or guardian (over the age of 18) is allowed to remain throughout the night with the child.

Accident & Emergency Unit

o One (1) or two (2) designated visitors are allowed to visit an adult patient in Accident & Emergency (A&E) for maximum 15 minutes.

#### Maternity

• During delivery, two persons are permitted in the labour room

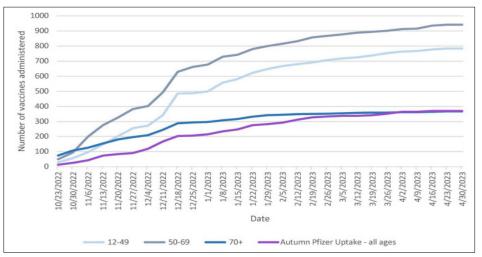
Surgical Unit - One (1) or two (2) persons may visit at a time for 15 minutes, unless special permission is granted

# **COVID-19 Surveillance Data**

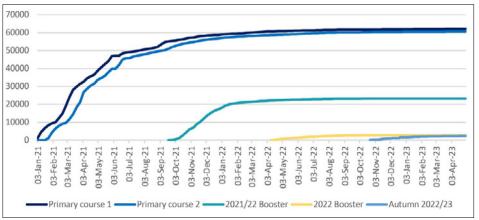
April 2023 (data as of 2 May 2023)

During the month of April 2023, there was a decrease in the number of hospital admissions from 21 admissions in March 2023 to 8 new admissions in April 2023. The data includes patients who were ad-

mitted to the hospital for medical care and SARS-CoV2 symptoms and those who tested positive for COVID-19 when screened upon admission. One COVID deaths was reported for the month of April 2023.



► Cumulative Autumn booster (typically Moderna) uptake overtime by age group.



► Vaccine uptake over time



Monthly hospitalisations and deaths (since 8 September 2021<sup>a</sup>) a First COVID-19 patient was in March 2020, but hospitalisation figures begin September 2021 for graphical reasons.

Indicator	April 2023	March 2023	Percentage change
New COVID-19 patients admitted <sup>b</sup>	8	21	-62%
New admissions with ≥ 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine <sup>b</sup>	3	14	-79%
COVID-19 patients discharged	7	17	-59%
Supplemental O2 inpatients <sup>c</sup>	5	3	67%
Ventilated inpatients <sup>c</sup>	0	0	0%

- ► COVID-19 patients admitted to hospital
- <sup>b</sup> Admissions include patients who are detected as being COVID positive on screening,
- <sup>c</sup> inpatient indicators are based on data received at the point of admission.

Dose Number	Number administered in the month	Total Count	Coverage of Total Population <sup>d</sup>	Coverage of population over $5^{d}$
Primary course 1	25	62,113	87.0%	95.9%
Primary course 2	24	60,688	85.0%	93.7%
2021/22 Booster	0	23,180	32.5%	35.8%
2022 Booster	0	2,759	3.9%	4.3%
Autumn 2022/2023 Booster	96	2,346	3.3%	3.6%

► COVID-19 vaccine uptake and coverage within the previous month. ¹ Based on a Total Population of 71,432.

### Global Updates

On the 4th May 2023, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that the COVID-19 pandemic is no longer regarded a Public Health Emergency of International Concern[1]. The Director-General stated that whilst COVID-19 cases and deaths continued to decrease, this may in part be related to surveillance efforts decreasing and pandemic fatigue.

Overall, the risk is viewed to have decreased due to high population-level immunity resulting from vaccination and/or infection and improved clinical case management, alongside the current strain circulating, Omicron and its sub-lineages, having a relatively consistent virulence.

On the 10th May, the WHO Emergency Committee for monkeypox (mpox) advised that the outbreak is no longer viewed a Public Health Emergency of International Concern[2]. This is due to the sustained decline in cases detected.

[1] World Health Organization, Statement on the fifteenth meeting of the IHR (2005) Emergency Committee on the COVID-19 pandemic, 5 May 2023. Available online: https://www.who.int/news/item/05-05-2023-statement-on-the-fifteenth-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-pandemic

[2] Pan American Health Organization, WHO declares end of mpox emergency, calls for sustained efforts for long-term management of the disease, 11 May 2023. Available online: https://www.paho.org/en/news/11-5-2023-who-declares-end-mpox-emergency-calls-sustained-efforts-long-term-management-disease

### A Message from the Chief Medical Officer

On the 4th May 2023 the WHO Director-General accepted the advice offered by the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic that COVID-19 is now an established and ongoing health issue which no longer constitutes a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC).

It is important that the WHO message is not misunderstood to mean that there is no longer any risk, as the WHO also added the important caveat that their statement 'must be interpreted within the context that the committee noted that SARS-CoV-2 has been and will continue circulating widely and evolving'.

The COVID-19 pandemic is not over.

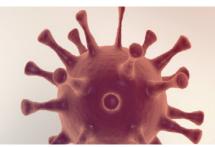
The COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, along with a better understanding of the virus and how it is transmitted, have only allowed us to move out of the emergency phase.

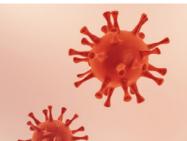
We also face the re-emergence of other respiratory infections, including the flu.

I continue to recommend, not just for COVID-19, but for good protection against many infectious diseases that we all:

- \* always practice proper hand hygiene
- \* stay home when unwell
- \* consider wearing masks when in crowded indoor areas (including during air travel), especially if you are clinically vulnerable
- \* get vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19 and the Flu







## CAYMAN COMMUNITY GETS BEHIND UCCI'S INAUGURAL VOCATIONAL CAREER FAIR AND SYMPOSIUM

On Thursday 25 May 2023, the University College of the Cayman Islands hosted its inaugural RESEMBID TVET, Career Fair and Symposium, with hundreds of community members in attendance. Funded by European Union (EU) sustainable development fund, RESEMBID, the TVET, Career Fair and Symposium was established to provide a forum for knowledge and experience exchange for technical vocational education and training (TVET) scholars, practitioners, decision-makers, and stakeholders within the Cayman Islands.

The jam-packed schedule of events kicked off at 9am with a Career Fair which was open to school children, community members and vocational workforce members in the Cayman Islands. This provided an opportunity to network, share knowledge, experiences, and open doors to future careers. Winners of essay competitions open to school children were also announced at the Careers Fair.

In the evening, the University College of the Cayman Islands welcomed many influential sector experts for an industry symposium. UCCI was proud to host Her Excellency the Governor of the Cayman Islands, Mrs. Jane Owen, who opened the evening event before esteemed guests took part in a panel interview. Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and MInister for District Administration & Lands, the Honourable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly was also in attendance, welcoming valued academic partner, New England Institute of Technology (NEIT), to the event. UCCI is working with NEIT to build a partnership to promote and progress vocational training in the Cayman Islands.

Dr. Robert W. Robertson, President, and CEO of UCCI, commented, "We are thrilled that our first TVET, Career Fair and Symposium was so well attended and that we



gave local people a chance to network, advance their careers and find out what opportunities are available to them. It was a great opportunity for people from all walks of life to find out about a career in technical and vocational trades, skills that are in high demand in the Cayman Islands.

This is all possible thanks to grant funding from the European Union funded RE-SEMBID, who are committed to enhancing the lives of people in the Cayman Islands through funding much-needed skills development.

"Technical vocational education and training is a huge growth area at UCCI and within the Cayman Islands. We have seen a jump of over 60% in our TVET enrolments from the last academic year to this aca-

demic year and we are committed to providing the Cayman Islands with a wealth of skilled workers."

Paul Puckerin, Dean of Professional Technical Education and Training at UCCI commented, "I want to say a big thank you to everyone who came along today and made the event such a huge success. To all our guest speakers, exhibitors, panelists, and guests, thank you, and we look forward to this being the first of many."

The event was funded by RESEMBID, a project European Union and implemented by Expertise France - the development cooperation agency of the Government of France, supports sustainable human development efforts in 12 Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)

- Aruba, Anguilla, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Saba, Saint Eustatius, Saint Barthelemy, Saint Maarten and Turks and Caicos.

In February 2023, the University College of the Cayman Islands was awarded a €1.1M grant, by RESEMBID, which will see the University at the forefront of renewable energy and sustainable development planning for the Cayman Islands and the Caribbean region. This is the second RESEMBID grant awarded to the University in 12 months, after it received €432,000 (\$CI405,000), to help train students in trades that are sustainable, both environmentally and economically. Today's event was funded by this grant.

### Jasmine takes to the stage for their biggest-ever Spotlight performance Broadway concert to raise money for palliative and hospice care in Cayman

Following a successful run in 2021, the cast of Back in the Spotlight will return to the stage at the Harquail theatre on Friday, 9th and Saturday, 10th June. Prepare to be dazzled as some of Cayman's most talented performers showcase your favourite Broadway hits. All proceeds from ticket sales will go directly to Jasmine, a not-forprofit that provides free hospice and palliative care in the Cayman Islands.

Despite being officially retired, the production will be helmed by enthusiastic returning Artistic Director "Miss Jackie" Balls. Arek Nicholson will oversee the musical direction and the cast will feature some familiar faces, as well as some notable new additions. These include the UCCI dance (under the direction of Dr Monika Lawrence), Miss Jackie's original company dancers, and the Singrays A Capella group.

Producer Kerrie McMillan says, "Productions of this caliber do not happen overnight. Our cast has volunteered their time and talent for months, rehearsing to bring you their best voices for you to enjoy. I am so proud of the commitment they have made. This is our fifth musical production in support of Jasmine and the largest one to

date. We are all so excited to be doing this again. Many of our cast have been involved with Jasmine personally and our productions are extremely meaningful to them".

Jasmine is the only organisation in the Cayman Islands that provides free palliative and end-of-life care. Their services are available to anyone who is struggling with a serious, life-limiting illness, and their loved ones. There is a growing demand for Jasmine's services and, as a not-forprofit, it would not be possible to provide support to everybody in need without the generosity of the Cayman community.

Back in the Spotlight is generously sponsored by Tortuga as the Headlining Sponsor, joined by Androgroup Elevator, Pearinder Foundation, CIIPA, Massive Equipment, Deja vu photography, and the management team of the Harquail Theatre. Jasmine and the Spotlight team are extremely grateful for their support.

Tickets are CI\$25 and can be purchased via eventpro.ky or directly from Jasmine at the Jasmine Villa (31 Jasmine Blossom Way – off West Bay Road). Call 945-7447 or email info@jasmine.ky for more information.



# SOCI SELECTS TEAM TO REPRESENT THE CAYMAN ISLANDS AT THE UPCOMING SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES IN BERLIN

Special Olympics Cayman Islands (SOCI) has announced the team of 16 athletes that will represent the Cayman Islands in the upcoming Special Olympics World Games in Berlin from 17th – 25th June. The selected team includes athletes Aliyah Shand, Ashanti Sappleton, Dante Thompson, Dayana Powery, Elijah Lawrence, Javaughnie Thomas, Jordan McLean, Jose Reyes, Julius Smith, Kanza Bodden, Lewin Solomon, Matthew Javier, Shanike Ebanks, Rasheed Lawrence, Tessa Terry and Tivon Garraway.

Taking place every four years, the Special Olympics World Games are the world's largest inclusive sports event, where thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities compete together in 26 sports. SOCI will be sending 16 athletes to compete in three sports including swimming – both pool and open water swimming –, athletics and powerlifting.

Speaking about the team announcement, Jennifer Powell, Head of Delegation commented: "We are incredibly proud of the athletes that have been selected to

represent SOCI at the upcoming World Games in Berlin. They have each shown a huge amount of dedication and training in their chosen sport and we wish them all the best in their individual competitions."

A number of fund raising activities have taken place over the past few months and are still taking place in an effort to raise funds to cover the costs of sending the athletes to the World Games in Berlin. The recent Ryde-a-thon in Camana Bay selected SOCI as its recipient charity this year raising over \$150,000, the upcoming Flowers Sea Swim has also announced that SOCI will be the beneficiary of funds raised from its gala dinner taking place on 15th June and its Walk and Watch taking place on 17th June.

Speaking about the fundraising efforts, Adrian Lynch, Chairman for SOCI commented: "There has been an incredible amount of local support for our athletes, without which none of this would be possible. On behalf of SOCI and our athletes, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our World Games Gold sponsors



▶ Team of 16 athletes and delegation with Hon. G. Wayne Panton JP, MP, HE The Governor Jane Owen and Hon. Bernie Bush

Cayman Islands Stock Exchange, Cayman Islands Monetary Authority, London & Amsterdam Trust Company Ltd., Cayman Private Aviation, Tortuga, Rotary Club of Grand Cayman, Trevor Neckles and Friends, and our supporters Ryde and

Flowers Group.

To find out more about the team of selected athletes representing the Cayman Islands at the World Games and how to get involved in the various fundraising efforts visit www.soci.ky

### Family Fun Day - Clash of the Legends

### 345 vs. Elite

This was a well played match from the very start with both teams deserving of a victory, however 345 took home the trophy with a win 2-0. Honourable Kathryn Ebanks-Wilks presented the trophy.

#### Cayman vs. Jamaica

We want to thank all the brave men who dusted off their boots to compete in this historic match. It appeared it was going to be a very long night for Cayman going into the second half with Jamaica ahead and the only goal of the match. Up until this point, Jamaica had dominated the field.

Brent Hydes and Arden "Cheeky" Rivers took to the sidelines for Cayman and a shift in the dynamics of the match changed.

Cayman dominated the second half and took the lead 3-1. Jamaica desperately fought back nearing the end of the match scoring another goal however time had run out before they were able to tie the match. Cayman's goal scorers were Fred Ebanks, Carlos Welcome and Henry Ebanks with Devon James scored for Jamaica. The match concluded with a 3-2 victory for Cayman.

#### Winners

Winner	Prize	Sponsor	Ticket
Kevin Morales	Staycation	Westin	550
Chineah Daigle	Staycation	Holidy Inn Staycation	1232
I. Burges	\$100	Princess Jewelers	1435
James Walton	\$100	Princess Jewelers	260
Courtney Yates	\$100	Princess Jewelers	861
Eli Conolly	\$100	Princess Jewelers	155
Ben Sovamo	\$100	Princess Jewelers	494
James Thomson	\$100	Princess Jewelers	10
Maria Geiffon	\$100	Princess Jewelers	46
Mia	\$100	Princess Jewelers	1125
Pualhaua	\$100	Princess Jewelers	1012
Logan McIlroy	\$100	Princess Jewelers	844
Gina	Ride for Two	Parasailing Professionals	1394
Chris Bowring	Ride for Two	Parasailing Professionals	479
Mary Foster	Ride for Two	Parasailing Professionals	721
Alistair C	Ride for Two	Parasailing Professionals	?

Stingray City/ Snorkelling x2	Captain Marvin's	786
Stingray City/	Captain Marvin's	179
Stingray City/	Captain Marvin's	771
\$50	Morgan's	131
\$50	Morgan's	908
Brunch	XQs	485
Brunch	XQs	1146
Brunch	XQs	203
Brunch	XQs	890
\$50	PDs	734
\$25	PDs	1047
\$25	PDs	962
\$25	PDs	239
\$25	PDs	676
\$25	PDs	1224
\$25	PDs	522
\$25	PDs	8
\$25	PDs	214
\$25	PDs	938
\$25	PDs	781
\$25	XQs	190
\$25	Morgans	502
\$25	Morgans	1434
\$25	Fosters	831
\$25	Fosters	471
\$25	Fosters	294
\$25	Waffle Monkey	1180
\$25	Waffle Monkey	465
\$25	Lobster Pot	192
\$25	Lobster Pot	1248
\$25	Lobster Pot	909
\$25	Lobster Pot	583
\$25	Calypso Grill	305
Large Assorted Platter	Subway	863
\$10	Subway	505
\$10	Subway	2
\$10	Subway	393
\$10	Subway	635
\$10	Subway	198
\$10	Subway	1024
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Sean D	\$10	Subway	899
Catrina B	\$10	Subway	101
Lovelock G	\$10	Subway	6

#### **Summary**

This year has proven to be one of the most successful yet with a turnout of more than 600 people. We were delighted to welcome the Honourable Kathryn Ebanks-Wilks who greeted her constituents and presented the trophy to 345 for their win over Elite.

All enjoyed the several hundred plates of food and beverages provided complimentary at our Family Fun Day. The children played in the sack races, spoon & egg races and as a bonus, guided horse rides were available as well.

This was truly a remarkable event, and we want to thank everyone for your continued support throughout the years.

### Girls Softball - Playoffs Report



► Coldwell Banker - Eowyn



► Coldwell Banker - Jialy



► Coldwell Banker - Maya



► Coldwell Banker - Raegan



▶ Digicel - Coco



▶ Digicel - Eve



▶ Digicel - Rio



▶ Digicel - Tracey

### Coldwell Banker 15 Logic 12

The Girls Softball playoffs got underway on May 24th as 1st place Coldwell Banker held off a spirited Logic team, 15-12. Coldwell Banker led 12-7 after two innings, but Logic rallied to tie the score in the middle of the 3rd. Coldwell Banker kept their composure and scored three runs in the bottom of the inning to secure the victory.

Maya Willis, Janey Veilleux, Raegan Jefferson, Eowyn Hawkins and Jialy Archbold-McLaughlin scored two runs each for the victors, who advance to the championship game. Ewoyn had a single, a double, and 3 RBIs, while Jialy also had a single, a double, and 3 RBIs to lead the hitting attack for Coldwell Banker. Eowyn struck out four batters during her two innings of pitching, and Daniela Del Risco made a couple of good defensive plays at second base.

Lili Aleria scored three runs for Log-

ic, and she had a grand slam homer to right field during a five-run third inning. She finished with 5 RBIs on the night. Avah Connors had a 2 RBI triple and a double. Jeliyah McLean, Hristina Nachev, and Hanna Jackson scored two runs each. As it was the final game of the season for Logic the players were presented with their medals after the game.

Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4rd	TOTAL
Logic	4	3	5	-	12
Coldwell Banker	6	6	3	-	15

### Digicel 11 Kirk Freeport 7

On Saturday evening, 2nd seeded Digicel jumped out to an early 9-3 lead, then held off a late rally to outlast Kirk Freeport, 11-7.

Coco Windsor and Tracey Campbell tallied three runs apiece for Digicel, who scored four runs in the 1st and five

runs in the 2nd. Tracey also had a key RBI single and she pitched all five innings for the win, striking out four and making some excellent defensive plays on the mound, including the final out of the game. Rio Windsor chipped in with two runs after reaching base three times. Coco and Rio also teamed up for an important play in throwing out a runner at the plate. Renee Bryan contributed with 2 RBIs and Cosette Brendel had an RBI single. The Digicel team used their speed to their advantage, stealing several bases or advancing on passed balls.

Kirk Freeport was missing a couple of players, but they still put up a very spirited effort. Nelly Hayles had a single, a double and 4 RBIs, while Kenia Rostran-Martin had three singles and two runs scored. Kenia also turned an unassisted double play. Daniella Heard was on base twice and gave a solid per-

formance while pitching for the first time this season. Unfortunately, four key errors and a few too many walks thwarted their chances at victory. The Kirk Freeport girls received their medals following the contest.

Coldwell Banker will take on Digicel in the championship game on Thursday, June 1st at 6:45 pm.

Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4rd	5rd	TOTAL
Kirk Freeport	3	0	3	1	0	7
Digicel	4	5	2	0	-	11

The public are reminded that Little League's fundraising raffle is back, with a grand prize this year of a whopping CI\$100,000! There are also ten \$1000 prizes, and the drawing will take place on June 10th. Tickets may be purchased online at www.littleleague.ky or by visiting the Field of Dreams on Fairbanks Road.



## Your free copy of Caymanian Times is back!

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