## Caymanian



**Wednesday Edition** 

Issue No 947

www.caymaniantimes.ky

January 10 2024

Complimentary —

## CAYMAN BRAC IS NOW 100% FIBRE



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LIAT AIRLINE TO STOP FLYING



## Spanglish brings Latin flavours to Cayman

The Caymanian Times continues its series looking at local businesses and finding out what makes them tick. This time we speak with Roger Espinal, owner of the popular Spanglish Bar & Grill.

Spanglish is a Mexican Latin cuisine for celebrating the likes of Cinco de Mayo. restaurant with a vibrant decor and a fantastic atmosphere buzzing with energy. It is a great spot for family and friends to visit, and has become an ideal venue

Honduras Independence Day and Día de

SEE SPANGLISH BRINGS LATIN FLAVOURS TO **CAYMAN, PAGE 7** 



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## Highlighting our local businesses



▶ Spanglish husband and wife team Roger Espinal and loany Ulloa



Cayman's small businesses are the lifeblood of these islands. They provide a myriad of goods and services that keep us all fed, clothed, entertained, and in good health. They keep our cars running, our accounts in order, our hair cut, our properties cleaned and our gardens maintained. They also contribute to government coffers in a wide range of ways, paying import duties on goods, business and company licensing, and immigration fees. We, at the Caymanian Times, are small business owners ourselves. We know the pressures faced by people battling to keep a business going while feeding our families, paying our mortgages and attempting to save a little (especially now, when costs and interest rates are rising), so we have always supported Cayman's small business owners wholeheartedly.

We stand alongside our fellow business owners in the battle for

survival.

In this edition we intend to use our platform and continue highlighting small businesses and the owners behind their success. We begin our renewed focus by speaking with Roger Espinal, owner of Spanglish Bar & Grill, who has worked hard to recreate the heady and colourful atmosphere and cuisine of Mexico right in the heart of the Seven Mile Beach corridor. We find out how he has managed to establish himself and keep going during tough economic times and hear his words of wisdom that other would-be restauranteurs might want to know.

If you are a small business owner and would like to share your story with us then please get in touch at news@caymaniantimes. ky. We look forward to sharing more stories about our small businesses in our upcoming editions.



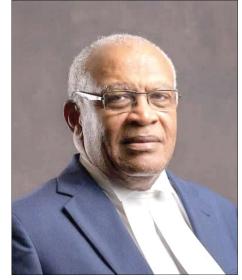
## **Appointment of** Two Justices to the Cayman Islands **Court of Appeal**



► Clare Montgomery KC

Her Excellency the Governor, Jane Owen, is pleased to announce the appointments of the Honourable Sir Anthony Smellie and Ms. Clare Montgomery KC to the Cayman Islands Court of Appeal.

During the period 15 September 2023 to 22 October 2023, the Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) carried out an open recruitment process advertising the post locally and overseas. Following a short-listing process, an interview panel interviewed four persons for the post; ultimately resulting in the JLSC recommending the Honourable Sir Anthony Smellie and Ms. Clare Mont-



► Sir Anthony Smellie KC

gomery KC as the successful candidates. Her Excellency accepted the recommendations to appoint both Sir Anthony and Ms. Montgomery as Justices of the Court of Appeal.

"It is my great privilege to appoint Sir Anthony and Ms. Montgomery as Justices of Appeal" the Governor said. "These individuals bring a wealth of skills, experience and knowledge that will enhance the already exceptional calibre of the Court of Appeal. I look forward to Sir Anthony's return to the Cayman Islands judiciary and to welcoming Ms. Montgomery to the islands in due course."





## caymanian

Issue # 947

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



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## Synrgy Solutions bolster leadership team with new senior hire

Synrgy Solutions, a leader in Anti-Money Laundering (AML) services, is delighted to announce the appointment of Sandra Edun-Walter as Director of Synrgy AML Services. Sandra will lead the charge in enhancing the company's compliance capabilities and bringing industry-leading AML solutions to our clients.

Sandra is a seasoned Attorney-at-Law with an extensive background in compliance and AML. She joins Synrgy from a leading law firm in the Cayman Islands, where she served as the Head of Compliance & Reporting Services. Her expertise spans providing Anti-Money Laundering, Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) Reporting, and Compliance Officer services. Her previous roles also include serving as legal counsel for the Cayman



► Sandra Edun Watler

Islands Monetary Authority and Head of Compliance for the Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, and Bermuda for another leading law firm.

In addition, Sandra is deeply invested in the compliance community, and is the Chairman of the Caribbean Regional Compliance Association and the immediate past president of the Cayman Islands Compliance Association. She is an active member of the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crime Caribbean Task Force and chaired the Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group of the Cayman Islands Legal Practitioners Association. Her contribution to the field includes her role as the legal assessor for the Caribbean Financial Action

Task Force and her lectures on AML at the Truman Bodden Law School in the Cayman Islands as well as representing the field in various working groups.

In response to the appointment, Keisha James, Managing Director of Synrgy Solutions, stated, "We are thrilled to have Sandra join our team. Her wealth of knowledge and practical experience in AML and regulatory compliance will undoubtedly elevate our services to new heights. Sandra's leadership and expertise align perfectly with our commitment to excellence in serving our clients' needs."

Sandra's credentials also include being a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist, a Certified trainer for ACAMS, and holding a Trust and Estate Practitioner designation.

#### Barents Re Reinsurance Company, Inc., Continues Support of the Insurance Managers Association of Cayman (IMAC) Educational Scholarship Fund



▶ IMAC Scholarship Recipients 2022 (L-R: Jayden Miller, Jana Tibbetts)

Barents Re Reinsurance Company, Inc. (Barents Re) has reaffirmed its commitment to the Insurance Managers Association of Cayman (IMAC) Educational Scholarship Fund, a program that has successfully raised over \$5 million since its establishment, enabling 65 young Caymanians to pursue higher education. The scholarship program depends on contributions from the Association's members and industry partners who share the vision of empowering the next generation in the Cayman Islands.

In 2022, Barents Re pledged a generous donation of \$60,000, disbursed as \$20,000 annually for three years to support the Fund.

Barents Re, a leading independent reinsurance group established in 1996, maintains a strong presence in Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America, with over 650 reinsurance connections across 75 countries. The company specializes in offering niche and specialty reinsurance products to property and casualty insurers. Barents Re's ongoing support for the Scholarship Fund directly benefits the scholarship recipients, including 2022 awardees, Jayden Miller and Jana Tibbetts.

Jana Tibbetts, currently pursuing studies at Toronto Metropolitan University (Ryerson University), expressed her gratitude, saying, "The IMAC Scholarship has provided me with numerous opportunities I didn't have previously. Without it, I wouldn't have been able to fund my studies overseas in Toronto, where I'm focusing on the creative industries. Creativity has always been a passion of mine, and I am endlessly grateful not only for the opportunity to study it at a higher level but also for the chance to establish valuable connections worldwide that will undoubtedly advance my goals in entering the bustling creative industry as a Caymanian. My time in Toronto has been nothing short of amazing, and I cannot wait to bring back all of my knowledge to further enhance the creative sector back home in the Cayman Islands."

Jayden Miller, another 2022 scholarship recipient, studying at the University of Kent, shared, "I am deeply honored to have been one of the 2022 IMAC Scholarship recipients, and I cannot fully express how much it meant to be chosen from among the many applicants. When I learned that I was selected by the scholarship interview committee, I was immediately overwhelmed with joy and relief, as I no longer had to worry about how to finance my university education and other associated costs. Another reason why being an IMAC scholarship recipient holds such significance is the knowledge of how proud my parents are of me for achieving such a prestigious honor and the assurance that they are a little less concerned about how I'll pay for university. Especially considering that when I was growing up, my parents made significant financial sacrifices for my siblings and me. With this in mind, I understand that this scholarship means as much to me as it does to them. With the help of this scholarship, I hope to complete my studies at the University of Kent, where I am currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business and Management. In the future, once I have completed my degree, I would like to return to the Cayman Islands and apply the knowledge I have gained from my studies to the business environment."

To make a donation to the IMAC Educational Scholarship Fund, contact Kevin Poole at kevin.poole@imac.ky

Further information about the Scholarship Fund can be found at www.caymanintinsurance.ky/imac-scholarship-fund

The Insurance Managers Association of Cayman (IMAC) represents the international insurance industry in the Cayman Islands. IMAC liaises with government and the regulator on the industry's behalf and promotes innovation and international competitiveness to maintain Cayman's advantageous market position. The Cayman Islands is the second largest domicile in the world for captives and a dominant jurisdiction for healthcare captives, group captives, catastrophe bonds and international reinsurance.

## National Housing Development Trust evolves to meet increased demand for housing

The National Housing Development Trust (NHDT or "the Trust") is introducing a series of new initiatives to support Caymanians in today's challenging housing market by increasing the supply of affordable homes, expanding the Home Repairs programme, and reintroducing a Lease to Own programme.

To help address the current housing crisis, the Cayman Islands Government allocated \$15 million to the NHDT in the 2024-2025 budget.

As a government-owned entity, the NHDT's remit is to provide affordable housing, mortgage financing and other services to assist low-to-middle income Caymanians.

"The National Housing Development Trust has to keep evolving in order to meet the needs of our community," said Andrew McBean, Chairman of the Board.

"With the current shortage of affordable housing, it is imperative that the Trust innovate and adopt a more sustainable approach in the way we design and build homes, ensuring that we achieve the most efficient use of land and deliver the greatest value for money," Mr McBean added.

To help with this transition, and following the resignation of general manager Julio Ramos last month, the NHDT has engaged the services of Deloitte, who have also been requested to look at various operations within the Ministry of Planning,



Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure (PAHI), to modernise operational frameworks and put in place new procedures that will allow the organisation to scale up operations while the Board recruits for a new general manager.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Ramos for his knowledge and technical assistance over the past year during which we started the process of innovating and evolving, for his ongoing assistance with the current transition projected up to the end of his term later this month and for his dedicated service over the past 14 years," said Mr McBean. "His legacy is a loyal and dedicated team of staff members, committed to helping to deliver on our plans for the future."

Mr Ramos said, "After careful thought and consideration and providing approximately 14 years to the National

Housing Development Trust (NHDT), I have decided to move on to pursue other personal aspirations. This was a difficult decision to make as I cherish my time at the NHDT and have enjoyed my working relationship with the Operations Team, the various Boards over the years, and the Cayman Islands Government. I am appre-

ciative of the opportunities provided to me at the NHDT as I was able to grow professionally and was allowed to contribute to various programmes of the Trust that provide housing opportunities to our people. I understand that this notice may have come as a surprise to some, however, rest assured that I have been assisting with the required transition exercise for the continued efficiency and delivery of service to the deserving Caymanians who require housing assistance and opportunities."

The NHDT's immediate priority is to accelerate the construction of new, for-sale homes as well as to reintroduce a Lease to Own programme which makes a portion of NHDT homes available to Caymanians who may not qualify with any local lending institutions. The Trust's aim is for Lease to Own programme participants to own their homes outright after a period of five years.

The NHDT is also expanding its Home Repairs service to include houses not built by the Trust. In partnership with the Ministry of Social Development, the programme allows homeowners who might not otherwise afford necessary repairs to maintain a dry, safe and livable environment.

For more information about the National Housing Development Trust's services and past projects, visit the website at https://www.nhdt.gov.ky



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## Port fee hikes "worsen cost of living crisis"



► Hon Roy McTaggart

With the Cayman Islands almost solely reliant on imported goods for sur-

vival, from food to cars, construction materials to clothing, the increase by government of a slew of port fees will drive up the cost of imported goods and thereby worsen the cost-of-living crisis, the PPM has warned.

Recently gazetted changes to the Port (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 have meant Cayman residents will have to pay more for imports into the country, especially car, with the introduction of a new flat rate fee of \$300 for a vehicle weighing less than six tons and \$500 for a vehicle weighing six tons or more. The

OP240016

charge for trucking cargo from shipside to the distribution centre at the Industrial Park is now \$60 for a container 20 feet long or less, \$120 for a container more than 20 feet long but not more than 40 feet long, and \$135 for a container more than 40 feet long. Cargo dues, handling charges, heavy lift charges and tailgate charges for containers have all increased as well, as have storage and miscellaneous costs.

"The government's recent surprise increases in port fees on imported goods will worsen the cost-of-living crisis. This unexpected increase comes on top of the Premier's \$120 million list of tax increases announced during the recent December budget session," the PPM stated. "In presenting her budget just before Christmas, the Premier promised the country that the government's tax increases were made to ensure that they were non-inflationary and did not have a direct impact on

the average citizen and the already high cost of living. These port fee increases will undoubtedly impact the cost of living, as will other increases the Premier and her government are planning."

During the budget debate, Opposition Leader Roy McTaggart warned that the government's skyrocketing spending spree would require increases in duties, fees, and other taxes as they tried to balance the books. Mr McTaggart warned: "I have observed that nearly every tax increase has a tangible effect on people's wallets in some manner or another."

The PPM wondered how many more surprise tax increases the country would learn about in the coming months as the government continued to fund its vast spending spree in the last year of its term.

"We, in the Progressives Opposition, will be watching," they confirmed.

### A note to our clients

#### **Early Branch Closures**

Our branches will close at 11:00 am - Monday, 15 January, 2024 in order to facilitate a staff function.

We encourage you to use our Online Banking, Mobile App services and Instant Tellers™ to facilitate transfers, bill payments, check your account balance and other transactions.

Branches will resume normal operating hours on Tuesday, 16 January, 2024.

Thank you for choosing CIBC FirstCaribbean as your preferred bank.



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## Spanglish brings Latin flavours to Cayman

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

los Muertos, just to mention a few. They also provide for corporate events, lunch and dinner special events. The restaurant is own by local entrepreneurs husband and wife Roger Espinal and loany Illoa.

Roger Espinal is no stranger to the restaurant business, having been a partner with his mother in the George Town restaurant called Latin Taste for the past 19 years. In addition, his wife has had an event and decoration shop, Party Mania, for the past seven years, so the couple know a thing or two about design and decor

Roger said the authenticity of Mexican flavours drew him into establishing his Mexican-themed restaurant, Spanglish.

"Their people, their culture, each night in a Mexican restaurant is a fiesta. Plus, my wife really loves Mexican food," he confirmed.

The restaurant evolved through team

"My wife took care of all the restaurant decorations. The menu was inspired by our Chef Allan with inputs by me and my wife," he said.

Roger is enthusiastic about the cuisine his restaurant produces and is delighted he has been able to appeal to both locals and visitors alike.

"The food, the margaritas, are carefully created with gastronomy, passion and love," he said. "The decor takes you to a restaurant somewhere in Mexico. The ambience makes you feel you are on vacation. The tourists love to eat where locals eat and we can proudly say we have that."

With authenticity a key reason for visiting Spanglish, Roger said people ought to try his establishment because they can take their diners to Mexico without boarding a plane.

Cayman is a small destination that is big on restaurants, so inevitably there are obstacles to success within the industry; however, Roger displays a positive attitude.

"There are many challenges but with good vibes and a positive staff crew we can manage it all. There is a slow season but we love our locals. They keep us afloat," he confirmed.

Roger said there had been many obstacles along the way to creating his dream restaurant but these have been overcome.

"Learn from your past mistakes," he advised. "And make sure you hire the right personnel to be a solid team in all areas of the service."

With the success of Spanglish, Roger is considering expansion.

"We love new challenges and we wish to grow more in the restaurant business," he stated



 $\blacktriangleright$  Spanglish husband and wife team Roger Espinal and loany Ulloa



▶ Spanglish husband and wife team Roger Espinal and loany Ulloa



► More Delicious Mexican food served right here in Cayman at Spanglish

## Family Resource Centre January 2024 Programmes Launch

The Family Resource Centre's 2024 parenting programmes begin on Monday, 8 January. Three important programmes that will begin this month include:

1. "Understanding ADHD" a virtual 4-week lunchtime workshop beginning on

Monday, January 8th

2. "Parenting Children with Anxious Behaviours" a virtual 4-week lunchtime workshop beginning on Friday, January

3. "Fathers First" an 8-week in per-

son evening programming beginning on Wednesday, January 31st

For a full list of workshops, to learn more, or to register, contact the Family Resource Centre on frc@gov.ky or 949-0006.



## **Opening of Walking Track Creek Primary School**

The Ministry of Education (MoE) invites the public to the official opening of the walking track at the Creek Primary School on Friday, 19 January 2024 starting

For more details, contact Ms. Alta Solomon at Creek Primary School by telephone at 948-0226.



### George Town Library Scheduled to Close for Renovations

The Cayman Islands Public Library Services (CIPL) advises that the George Town Public Library will be closed for renovations from Wednesday, 10 January, through Monday, 15 January.

Members of the George Town Public Library are encouraged to return books using the book drop located

outside the library, borrow EBSCO e-books online at cipl.gov.ky or email libraryprogrammes@gov.ky for more information.

The CIPL apologises for any inconvenience caused to its customers. Regular operations will resume on Tuesday, 16 January, at 10:00 am.

## Water Authority Launches New **Customer Portal**

Cayman is pleased to announce the launch of its brand-new Customer Portal. The new portal provides customers with a tool to manage their Water Authority accounts easily and more independently from an aesthetically pleasing and easy-to-use interface.

"We are so pleased to be able to offer this new and improved service to our customers," exclaims Water Authority

Customer Service Manager Joanna Welcome-Martinez. "This new portal has been in the works for some time, and our team and developers have put a lot of effort into creating a platform that provides great value and benefits to our customers," she adds.

Customers can enjoy several benefits from the platform, including viewing and paying their bills, scheduling bill payments, paying for multiple accounts at once, managing tenant accounts, tenant self-registration, requesting service orders, and reviewing consumption his-

Customers with existing online access will receive an email with instructions for accessing the new portal. Customers who do not have an online account with the Authority, including tenants, are en-



couraged to sign up now. Registration is quick and easy. Visit www.waterauthority.ky to learn more.

### CIRCA elects 2024 Officers and establishes goals for an exciting year ahead

The Cayman International Reinsurance Companies Association (CIRCA) recently held their All Members Meeting, announcing new leadership positions for

The Board of Directors and Management Committee will be chaired by David C. Self of CIBC Cayman Re, with Greg Mitchell of Aureum Re serving as Vice

David Self outlined that CIRCA's priorities for 2024 are "to build on the momentum created in 2023" by:

- expanding our presence at international conferences and hosting CIRCA's inaugural reinsurance conference '[Re] Connect'.
- strengthening our partnerships with Cayman Finance and Insurance Managers Association of Cayman (IMAC) by collaborating on shared priorities that help



▶ David Self, 2024 CIRCA Chair

grow the reinsurance sector in Cayman and the jurisdiction's reputation interna-

- growing our membership to deepen the involvement of Full and Associate Member firms, and

- continuing to expand our cooperation and collaboration with Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) to support the sector's growth and its increasing complexity.

David extended appreciation to Graham Mackay who served as the 2023 Chair, and "saw CIRCA through a busy year of growth and excitement."

CIRCA has several committees, established to achieve the Association's goals as the voice of commercial reinsurance companies in the Cayman Islands.

- Marketing Committee, Chaired by Steve Papciak of North End Re
- Social and Community Outreach Committee, Chaired by Isaac Espinoza of Root Insurance, with Owen McLaughlin of Au-

reum Re serving as Vice Chair

- Membership Committee, Chaired by Pratish Modi of Knighthead Annuity and Life Assurance Company, with Erik Fell of Ascendant Re serving as Vice Chair
- Regulatory Committee will be Chaired by Sehli Dube of North End Re, with Rachel Funk of Aureum Re serving as Vice
- Faramarz Romer of Greenlight Re will continue to serve as CIRCA's Treasurer

Founded in 2020, the Cayman International Reinsurance Companies Association serves as the voice of commercial reinsurance companies in the Cayman Islands. The association is dedicated to promoting collaboration, advocating for regulatory excellence, and driving educational initiatives in the Cayman Islands' thriving reinsurance sector. For more information, visit CIRCA online at www.circa.ky

### LIAT AIRLINE TO STOP FLYING

Unless there's a dramatic last-minute intervention, on January 24th the pages will close on the final chapter of a key part of the Caribbean's aviation history.

On that date LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport) will cease operating, bringing to an end 67 years of island hopping service that has served the island chain from Santo Domingo in the north to Guyana in the South.

However, the airline has had to navigate severe financial and operational turbulences, especially around disagreements between its various shareholder governments. LIAT had also stopped flying to Montserrat where it was launched as part of a series of service cutbacks caused by severe financial challenges.

The airline co-owned by governments of the regional Caricom (Caribbean Community) grouping has been the flagship of air transport in the region, especially the subregional OECS (Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States).

Launched in Montserrat, a British Overseas Territory, the airline has been beset by a recurring series of financial, manage-



ment, and government shareholder challenges.

According to its website: "Leeward Islands Air Transport Services was founded by the late Kittician (now Sir) Frank Delisle in Montserrat on 20 October 1956 and began flying with a single Piper Apache operating between Antigua and Montserrat."

Since then the airline which was based in Antigua under the holding company LIAT (1974) Ltd has been a staple in the region's aviation network dominating the routes in the eastern Caribbean.

Financial woes led to a decision by its 11 shareholder governments to partly privatise the company in 1995 to save it from bankruptcy.

Various attempts to rescue and reorganise the airline have failed since then with the LIAT forced to reduce its fleet to just one operational aircraft serving limited routes.

The 1980s has been described as a decade of growth for the airline. At its peak, LIAT employed over 650 staff, which has been whittled down to around 90 left and who are about to be made redundant.

A statement attributed to LIAT's current administrator, Cleveland Seaforth, says: "As a result of the foregoing, you are hereby notified that your employment with LIAT (1974) Limited (in administration) will be made redundant effective February 4, 2024."

For the airline which has also been buffeted by labour union disputes in recent years, the focus is now also on severance pay for its remaining staff.

According to the statement: "The company recognises its obligation as it relates to any of the applicable entitlements, which will be provided to you under separate cover within 45 days of this letter after the respective computations have been completed."

## BVI GOVERNMENT AND UK GOVERNOR AT ODDS OVER POWERS



► BVI Governor John Dakin press conference

#### By Michael Jarvis, London UK

The British Virgin Islands government and the territory's UK-appointed Governor are at odds over moves by the Governor to take on more powers.

At issue are recommendations coming out of a 2021 UK Commission of Inquiry into administrative shortcomings and corruption in the UK overseas territory.

The implementation of the far-reaching recommendations has been a point of contention between the BVI government of Premier Natalio Wheatley and Governor John Rankin over concerns that the process was going too slowly.

The Governor is now seeking additional powers in part to speed up the process.

Coming out of the Commission of Inquiry, an Order In Council is hanging over the BVI, giving the British government via the Governor the authority to institute direct rule if the Commission's recommendations are not implemented as agreed.

A deadline of May 2024 was set for putting the recommendations (submitted

in 2022) in place. But speaking during a press conference last Friday January 5th, Governor Rankin said this now seems highly unlikely and has suggested that the deadline be extended to November under special conditions.

"I am not recommending triggering of the Order in Council in order to establish an interim administration led by the Governor," he stated.

However, the BVI Governor went on to say: "I have come to the conclusion that additional powers are required for the Governor to help ensure that the BVI Government delivers its commitments."

#### **COLONIAL MOVE**

In a statement Premier Wheatley described the intentions of the Governor as "a colonial move", and speaking during a subsequent press conference on Monday January 8th, he called it an attempt at "a hostile takeover".

According to the Premier, any additional powers sought by Governor Rankin must be done by constitutional amendment.



▶ BVI Premier Natalio Wheatley press conference 8.1.24

The BVI is also pursuing a process of constitutional reforms to be negotiated with the British government.

Premier Wheatley said while there are challenges, his government is already working to the agreed extended timelines on the COI recommendations. "Things are going in the right direction. We have pressed forward, despite the initial timeliness that were agreed under duress. Some deadlines have been adjusted to ensure we have the additional time and resources to complete certain reforms and that the people and relevant stakeholders affected are consulted."

He also stated: "Clearly a reform exercise of the scale we are undertaking cannot be completed in its entirety in two years", and pointed to the UK's Brexit (split from the European Union) as an example. "In the United Kingdom (UK), Brexit was not completed in two years and there are still outstanding issues."

Mr Wheatley insisted that elected members on both sides of the BVI Legislative Assembly "are highly disappointed with the Governor's request for additional powers in his most recent update on governance reforms" which he felt encroached on areas of constitutional responsibility devolved to the elected arm of government.

"It would be a colonial act," he stated.

The BVI Premier also said that he will write to the UK Minister responsible for the Overseas Territories, David Rutley, "to urge him to not support the Governor's request to grant the Governor additional powers."

He said he would urge the continuation of "constructive engagement between the UK and the British Virgin Islands as partners and support to the elected arm of government in implementing governance reforms"

Current BVI Governor John Rankin will leave his post at the end of this month.

#### POLICE NEWS

### Police Recover Significant Quantity of Drugs at Residential Complex in George Town

At around 5:30PM, Wednesday 3 January, police recovered a large quantity of drugs, suspected to be cocaine, from a communal area of a private residential complex in the vicinity of Walkers Road, George Town.

Investigations continue. Police request that anyone with information relating to this matter contact 9-1-1, or the George

Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website<a href="http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip">http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip</a>.

Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Cayman Crime Stoppers website<a href="https://caymancrimestoppers.com/">https://caymancrimestoppers.com/</a>>.

## Man Arrested Following Commercial Burglary in George Town



Shortly after 1:40AM on Friday, 5 January, the 9-1-1 Communications Centre dispatched officers to a report of a burglary in progress at a restaurant and bar on the waterfront on North Church Street, George Town. Officers arrived at the location and observed a man fitting the description of

the culprit, who fled on foot upon seeing the police. Officers pursued the man on foot and subsequently detained and arrested him on suspicion of burglary.

The man, age 31 of George Town, remains in custody as investigations contin-

## UPDATE: Police Appeal for Witnesses to Printers Way Shooting

Police continue to investigate a shooting which occurred outside of the Vine & Tap Bar, on Printers Way in George Town, on Saturday, 23 December 2023, where one man was shot multiple times.

Police are aware that several persons were on the scene at the time of the incident, and are strongly appealing for these persons to come forward. Any of these persons, or anyone who may have any information, is asked to contact George Town CID at 949-4222.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website<a href="http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tips">http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tips</a>

# Police Urge Witnesses to Come Forward Regarding Seven Mile Public Beach Assault

Police continue to investigate an incident that was reported on 17 December, regarding an altercation that happened at Seven Mile Public Beach which resulted in a man ending up in hospital for treatment for serious lacerations to his head and hand, requiring surgery.

"For this type of case, witnesses are vital in order for police to reach an evidential threshold for a charge to be made against a culprit", says Detective Superintendent Peter Lansdown. "We thank those who have come forward, but we must build our case in order to have the best chance to achieve justice for the victim".

Video footage circulated on social media at the time of the incident reveals that a number of people were in the vicinity at the time of the incident, some giving a commentary on events. Police encourage these persons to come forward and provide information to support the case.

Police request anyone who witnessed the incident to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 949-4222.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website<a href="http://www.rcips.ky/submit-atip">http://www.rcips.ky/submit-atip</a>.



## Cayman Participants Needed for Nutrition Survey

The Ministry of Health & Wellness (MHW) is asking for the public's support in an academic research project focusing on nutrition in a selection of British Overseas Territories (BOTs). Registered Dietitian (RD) and Doctoral candidate at the Department of Population Health Sciences at Newcastle University (UK) Hannah Jones is conducting research on the dietary habits of residents in Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar and Turks and Caicos in order to better understand the unique and diverse dietary practices and needs of the selected BOTs.

"Many diet and lifestyle related health issues such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity and other cardiovascular disease risk factors, which were previously seen developing in middle-aged people, are now being seen in young people with increasing frequency," Mrs. Jones explains. "It is essential that local health and nutrition policies are based upon relevant data, that reflects the needs of their individual population. There is a lack of information across the British Overseas Territories (BOTs) about dietary habits, dietary/ nutrient intake data and how this might be affecting the health of their populations. Without local data, it is difficult for policymakers to ensure that policies and strategies have the intended impacts and outcomes for their unique communities. Understanding what, and how the population eats and drinks is important to help inform the development of localised policies and public health strategies. and to ensure the cost-effective use of public health resources", she adds.

Mrs. Jones will be undertaking pilot population-based online nutrition surveys in individual BOTs and provide country-specific reports on dietary intakes, typical meal patterns, and the general health of their communities. The surveys are conducted via the use of online self-administered 24-hour dietary recall tools to collect detailed, quantitative, dietary intake data, and in a manner which is minimally intrusive for participants. Participants are asked to recall what they ate on three (3) different days.

"The main aim is really to try to understand how people in the Cayman Islands eat, which foods and drinks they choose, the typical meals they eat, and their general health. This anonymised information will be used to create a report, which we hope can be used to inform your own national health and nutrition policies, and health promotion activities, so that they reflect the needs and habits of your own population. Of course, as a pilot survey, we're also trying to see if this strategy and method actually works for your population, and produces relevant, useful dietary information" Mrs. Jones elaborates.

"While the Ministry of Health & Wellness is not conducting this survey, and we will not have access to any personal information submitted, we are supportive of academic endeavours that aim to help us better understand the health and wellness of our population," explains National Epidemiologist, Rachel Corbett. "We know that while this will not be a comprehensive study for the whole population in the Cayman Islands, the findings will help to guide us and perhaps even determine if this is an area where more work needs to be done, so we encourage interested residents to sign up and take part" she adds.

The survey is aimed at participants ages

14-49 and gathers information on what people have eaten over the course of two weekdays and one weekend day. Upon signing up, participants will be asked some demographic (background) information, and will then be provided with a specific link that they will use to enter their dietary data on the three days. The dietary recalls typically take about 15-20 minutes each.

"If participants complete all three days of entries, the system will then generate a

nutrition report based on their own input", Mrs. Jones explains. "This nutrition reports offers great visual information on number of calories consumed, types and quantities of foods eaten from different food groups, and how their consumption compares to USDA guidelines for a variety of nutrients. The information may lead participants to seek more comprehensive advice from a local Dietitian or nutritionist on how to improve their eating habits and diet to help maximise their

health," she adds.

All Cayman residents ages 14-49 are invited to participate. The survey is now live and will run until Monday 26 February, 2024. To register, participants must log on to https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/newcastle/cayman-islands-nutrition-survey where additional information can also be found. Questions about the surveys should be directed to Hannah Jones on h.jones19@newcastle.



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

#### Answer to previous puzzle

7	9	5	1	3	6	8	2	4
2	1	8	4	5	9	3	6	7
6	3	4	2	8	7	1	5	9
8	7	6	3	2	1	9	4	5
3	5	2	9	7	4	6	8	1
9	4	1	5	6	8	7	3	2
4	6	3	7	9	5	2	1	8
5	2	9	8	1	3	4	7	6
1	8	7	6	4	2	5	9	3
Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/06								

#### 7/07

Word Search

#### ICANETIRG Ε s s D G Ε С Ν Α Υ С Ζ В н т Ε G R ACFLSNYAMP L V KHEROISMVEHA

Heroism Ability Audacity Mettle Backbone Nerve Boldness Pluck Power Bravery Courage Spirit Daring Stamina Energy Strength Tenacity Fire Force Verve Grit Will Guts Zeal Hardiness Zest Heart

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

#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

39 Attempts

40 Not "fer"

41 Collec-

tions

**1** Piña —

2 In awe

3 Convoy

trucks

on the

4 School

**ACROSS** 1 Job for a gumshoe

5 Buddies

9 Astrono-

mer's find DOWN 10 Make suitable

12 Texas landmark 13 Barber's

tool 14 Tearing

down 16 Mamie's

mate 17 Keats poems

18 Comic Dangerfield

21 Young fellow

22 Libel 23 Stunned

**24** Hot

peppers 26 Torontoto-D.C. dir.

29 Pack tightly

30 Mimicked 31 Designer

Claiborne **32** Looking intently

**34** Buggy riders

37 Hospital worker

38 Pound parts

#### S|H|A|M INES E OPINE ERODE AGO O|H|MDOABLE B|A|N|D P|L|A|I|N|T|A|L|KNOTE |L|A|N|E|R|

#### Saturday's answer

TAL

[E|V|E|R|T

A|R|E|S

15 Pasture activity

R|A|D|A|R|

T|0|0|L|S|

**26** Brio 27 Taste and

Thames 19 Bullfight **5** Golf goal cries

smell 6 Oklahoma 20 Pulled off 28 Borders 22 Niger 29 Applaud

city **7** Taking it easy

23 Poorly lit 24 Black

8 Aloud 9 Christmas

song 11 Deuce

topper

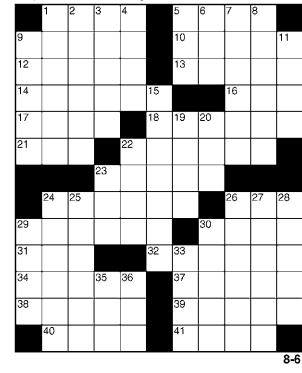
30 Blue hue neighbor

33 Picnic pests Sea **35** Biol. or

peninsula geol. **25** Frat 36 Chick's

doings mom

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

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- Be exact in measurements and markings so that materials will be used efficiently, and the projects will meet budgetary restrictions.
- Install the appropriate hardware, such as hinges and handles, and order replacement materials when needed.
- Match materials and grains to create a uniform appearance for all the matching units.
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- Maintain a safe working environment by cleaning and disposing of old materials, such as nails and screws. Varnish, stain, and paint cabinets

#### **POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

- Understanding of necessary mathematics
- Knowledge of materials and processing
- Applicable engineering and design skills
- Attention to detail
- High school diploma or equivalent
- 5 to 6 years or more of cabinetmaking experience

#### Salary range: CI\$10.00 to CI\$12.00 per hour

All standard benefits will be paid as per the Cayman Islands Labour Law.

Must be available to work Weekends and Holidays.

Please send a CV/Resume, cover letter, and three verifiable references to info@graniteexpresscayman.com.



CUC is an equal opportunity Company with over 250 employees who are committed to meeting the electricity needs of Grand Cayman and to providing quality customer service.

Reporting to the Director Sustainable Finance, the successful candidate will:

- ▶ provide support on various financial and data analytics matters;
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- ▶ lead the development and execution of the Company's sustainability initiatives aligning them with overall Company goals and objectives;
- ▶ collaborate with cross-functional teams to integrate sustainability principles into business operations, processes and decision-making;
- ▶ develop key performance indicators to monitor and report on sustainability performance to stakeholders both internally and externally;
- prepare and submit accurate and timely sustainability reports and disclosures, as required;
- ▶ lead regulatory matters including periodic cost of service studies, utilising external consultants and attend meetings with regulators, as needed;
- ▶ maintain current knowledge of relevant regulations, including proposed and final rules;
- ▶ liaise with debt and equity rating agencies on a timely basis to ensure accuracy of
- ▶ review and analyze business cases for new technology and development projects.

Applicants should possess a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Management or Sustainability Business Management; MBA in disciplines such as sustainability, compliance, environmental policy or economics (preferred); six to eight years financial, regulatory affairs and/or sustainability management experience; strong research, writing and computer skills as well as problem-solving and strategic planning abilities; a good understanding of business and resource needs; and the ability to apply sound principles of business to recognise costs, opportunities and identify risks in order to create opportunities with the highest payoffs for the Company.

CUC offers a very competitive benefits package including pension, health and life insurance. Caymanians, Cayman Status holders and permanent residents are preferred. To apply, visit the Company's website (www.cuc-cayman.com), click on the tab "Careers" on the Home Page, navigate to "Job Opportunities", click on the designated job title and follow the instructions. Applications must be submitted no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Applications through recruitment agencies will not be accepted. Only candidates who are short-listed will be contacted for an interview.



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

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We are seeking a reliable and experienced Dry Cleaner to join our team. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing exceptional customer service by cleaning and pressing clothing and garments according to company standards. As a Dry Cleaner, the candidate must have a keen eye for detail, be able to work independently, and have outstanding communication skills.

#### Responsibilities

- · Inspect garments for stains and damage before cleaning.
- Operate dry cleaning machines and pressers.
- Use specialized cleaning equipment and chemicals safely and effectively.
- Sort, correctly tag, and bundle garments for easy identification and retrieval.
- Uphold high standards of cleanliness and organization in the work area. Maintain accurate records of cleaned garments and customer orders.
- Collaborate with colleagues to ensure smooth and efficient workflow.
- Keep up to date with trends and developments in the dry-cleaning industry.

- Proven experience as a Dry Cleaner or in a related role
- Knowledge of different types of fabrics and their cleaning requirements
- Familiarity with dry cleaning equipment and chemicals Ability to follow instructions and adhere to safety protocols
- Excellent customer service skills with a friendly and helpful demeanor Strong attention to detail and time management skills
- Ability to stand for long periods and lift heavy garments
- High school diploma or equivalent certification
- 2 to 3 year's experience

#### Salary range: CI\$7.50- per hour

All standard benefits will be paid as per the Cayman Islands Labour Law.

Must be available to work Weekends, evenings, and Holidays.

Please send a CV/Resume, cover letter, and three verifiable references hello.washnwear@gmail.com



The role of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands (CAACI) is primarily to function as the regulatory organisation responsible for safety oversight and economic regulation of the aviation industry throughout the territory and to ensure that the Cayman Islands aviation industry conforms to the standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

#### **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**

The Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands is seeking to recruit a Marketing & Communications Officer in its Economic Regulation and Administration Division.

#### Job Responsibilities

- Logistical coordination from the planning stages to the execution stage for local and international tradeshows, promotional activities and special events, including conferences, seminars, workshops, and any requested logistical arrangements.
- Coordination of the CAACI's premium collateral materials inventory on an annual basis including suggestions for ordering, coordinating the ordering and inventory stock management and record keeping.
- Assist with the drafting of creative collateral materials for the CAACI, including but not limited to CAACI brochures, web design materials, social media platform content, display materials, in keeping with the defined CAACI brand and corporate image and also ensuring that the CAACI Image Library (print and electronic) is maintained and easily accessible as needed
- Assist with the creation and generation of press releases and public relations materials (media kits etc) and the dissemination of such communications materials utilizing the most appropriate channels.
- Drafts or assists in the preparation of speeches and presentations for CAACI officials and others as needed
- Maintains up-to-date and current mailing and distribution/ contact lists for the CAACI target audiences.
- Under guidance execute tactical initiatives aimed at client relations and business partner awareness and collaboration, also assist with planning and execution of staff team-building events.
- Researches and generates draft materials for CAACI's quarterly newsletter, Annual Report and other publications as needed from time to time.
- Liaise with divisional directors on business development initiatives to inform the annual communications plan of the CAACI and other tactical initiatives.
- Perform other general office related duties as directed from time to time.

#### Job Qualification, Experience & Skills

- Minimum of a tertiary level Business Degree, Marketing or Integrated Communications Degree or similar field from an accredited institution with a minimum of 5 years work experience in a marketing/business development role and a sound understanding and demonstrable skills in professional/ creative writing and events coordination.
- Ability to type accurately at a minimum speed of 50 wpm
- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Publisher) and graphic design programmes
- Ability to provide courteous assistance to CAACI's internal and external customers
- Basic understanding of integrated communications principles (press release writing, special event execution, branding, etc).
- Postholder must be highly organized and able to work on own initiative to meet deadlines, adaptable to changing targets and objectives.
- The ability to work independently with minimal supervision to complete the daily tasks to meet the prescribe deadlines

#### Salary & Benefits:

Salary range is **CI\$56,146 to CI\$86,720** per annum and will commensurate with experience and qualifications. Benefits include contributory pension, 18 working days' vacation and health insurance.

In addition to the benefits package the CAACI also offers an attractive work environment in the dynamic and exciting aviation industry that is rewarding and fulfilling with learning opportunities and the ability for personal and professional growth.

#### Closing date for applications is 26 January 2024 and should be sent to

Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands 205 Owen Roberts Drive P. O. Box 10277 Grand Cayman KY1-1003

E-mail: careers@caacayman.com

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.



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450	4.9 x 13.5
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150	4.9 x 4.96
75	4.9 x 3.25 or 3.22 x 4.96
50	4.9 x 1.55 or 2.38 x 3.25
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300	
500	
50	
	750 650 450 450 350 250 150 75 50 5 200 300 500

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#### **Senior Sales Associate**

Caymanian Times. is seeking a highly motivated sales professional who will develop, work and maintain sales targets and schedule and up sell on quality goods.

#### **Mandatory Requirements:**

- The successful candidate must have a minimum of 3 years working in sales and service experience in selling Media and Newspaper Advertisements.
- Must be computer literate and advanced in the use of MS Excel.
- Must have excellent administrative and communication skills.
- · Must speak, read, write, and comprehend English fluently.
- Must have the ability to drive.
- A current police record must be submitted.

#### Duties for the role are:

- Develop, work and maintain Sales Targets.
- Develop and implement in-house and product knowledge training for staff
- Create weekly & monthly sales and customer reports.
- Be able to learn and sell variety of products.

A strong work ethic and a positive attitude will be required.

Salary Range: CI\$2,500 - CI\$3,500.

An attractive compensation and benefits package (including medical insurance, vacation, pension and a 10% commission) is being offered to the qualified candidate. All applications received will be reviewed and only candidates meeting the mandatory requirements will be contacted for interview.

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#### Airworthiness Surveyor Grand Cayman Office

The Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands (CAACI) is seeking to recruit a qualified candidate as a CAACI Airworthiness Surveyor/Inspector, who will provide specialist regulatory oversight for the airworthiness of aircraft on the Cayman Islands Aircraft Register and to become an integral team member of the Air Safety Regulation Division.

#### **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Analyze applications to ascertain eligibility of such applications for the issuance of certificates required for the airworthiness of aircraft.
- Process and approve airworthiness applications to ensure compliance with the appropriate regulations.
- Regulate all air carrier airworthiness standards in the Cayman Islands to ensure compliance with all safety requirements of the Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order and applicable international standards.
- Assess aircraft maintenance organizations technical training, and quality systems for compliance with the applicable standards.
- Conduct ramp inspections on foreign registered aircraft.
- Ensure airworthiness oversight programmes are maintained and continually developed
- Perform aircraft oversight visits for the issue/re-issue of the certificate of airworthiness, and other technical approvals.
- Perform other related regulatory duties as may be required.

#### <u>ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS</u>: (you must meet or exceed these areas in order to be considered)

Must have experience in <u>one</u> of the two requirements below (preference will be given to candidates that meet both);

1. At least 5 years' experience with a Civil Aviation Authority in a regulatory role responsible for airworthiness oversight with OTAR Part 121 Equivalent Airworthiness, or

2. Minimum 10 years in a management role of aircraft maintenance, quality management and continued airworthiness management.

Must meet all of the following requirements;

- Hold, or have held an aircraft maintenance engineer licence (or equivalent) Issued by the Cayman Islands or an ICAO contracted state.
- Hold, or have held a Type rating on large transport category aircraft (MTOW over 47500 pounds) operating in a commercial environment.
- At least 5 years' experience of the maintenance of aircraft over 47500 pounds involved in commercial operations
- Knowledge of the requirements for Maintenance organization approval and continued airworthiness management approval
- Experience with Safety Management System (SMS) compliance requirements
- Knowledge of aircraft special airworthiness categories
- Knowledge of the Cayman regulatory (OTAR's, AN(OT)O) requirements
- Knowledge of ICAO annexes (6 and 8)
- Knowledge of internationally accepted audit techniques
- Excellent written, and interpersonal communication skills

#### <u>DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:</u> (one or more of these Qualifications will be considered highly favorable in the selection process)

- Holds a current Type rating on a B737 or equivalent size or larger CAT aircraft
- Experience in EASA certification and airworthiness standards
- Experience in corporate airworthiness
- Experience in a Training role
- Experience with International Aviation regulations
- Post-Secondary Degree in Aviation Management or Safety
- Experience drafting Technical Documents
- Experience in composite aircraft
- Experience in type certification processes
- Experience in developing customized maintenance programs (MSG 2 and MSG3)
- Experience with Incident or Accident Investigations

The ability to travel for aircraft oversight inspections, maintenance organization oversight and routine Authority business, sometimes-on short notice, is required. In your application letter, please clearly indicate how you meet the Essential, and any Desired Qualifications.

#### SALARY & BENEFITS:

Salary range for an Airworthiness Surveyor/Inspector is CI\$84,569 to CI\$139,316 per annum dependent on the individual's qualifications and experience.

Benefits include 25 days' vacation, contributory pension, and health insurance. In addition to our benefits package we also offer training and educational opportunities, and a challenging and dynamic work environment that is rewarding and fulfilling.

Closing date for application is 19 January 2024 and should be sent to:

Director-General Civil Aviation
Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands
205 Owen Robert Dr
P. O. Box 10277
Grand Cayman KY1-1003
CAYMAN ISLANDS

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