

Times Caymanian



Wednesday Edition

Issue No 983

www.caymaniantimes.ky

May 8, 2024

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Joshua Burke appointed as Cayman Brac Airport Manager

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Kartel may be freed soon



Strong Q1 performance for stayover visitors

The Cayman Islands welcomed 137,094 stayover visitors between January and March 2024 – the second highest visitation figure for this period in the islands' history only surpassed by the same period in 2019 representing a 13.4% increase from 2023 or 94% of 2019's record number.

For the first quarter of 2024, the United States remained the primary source market.

SEE STRONG Q1 PERFORMANCE, PAGE 5

Healthy looks different on everyone

Our Executive Health Checks are packaged to meet your individual needs, including optional add-ons specific to your unique health journey.

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Week 2

2024 Bulk Waste Collection Schedule

Replacing End of the Year Schedule

Grand Cayman



Cayman Brac



Little Cayman



Get your Bulk Waste Ready

- [Step 1](#) Check your collection date
- [Step 2](#) Separate metals & vegetative waste
- [Step 3](#) Place waste on curbside



Items accepted

Appliances, mattresses, vegetative waste, furniture, bicycles and scrap metals



Items NOT accepted

Electronics, tyres, hazardous materials, construction & demolition wastes

2024 Bulk Waste Collection Begins

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) will begin its Annual Bulk Waste Collection in the West Bay District from Monday, May 6 to Saturday, May 11, 2024.

Residents are reminded to prepare and separate their bulk waste ahead of the week assigned for collection in their respective areas. Any bulk waste that is put out after the announced dates will not be collected, as there will not be extensions of this massive clean-up exercise.

“Bulk waste shall be placed on the curbside in an area that is easily accessible to DEH collection crews and does not obstruct the roadway. There is no need to place it in any other area. There are no designated sites for the placement of bulk waste other than outside your homes. We are coming to you”, DEH Director, Mr. Richard Simms.

Following the completion of the bulk waste collection in the West Bay area, the DEH Solid Waste crews will move on to George Town for the second week of the schedule, as indicated below.

Bulk waste refers to large items such as old furniture, tyres and metal items that are not collected as part of the DEH’s weekly residential pick-up services.

Metal and vegetative waste must be separated from other bulk waste items. Meanwhile, construction and demolition debris, hazardous material, electronics, and tyres as will not be collected during



West Bay Residents!
Get Your Bulk Waste Ready

Collection from May 6 to 11, 2024. ONLY.

the bulk waste removal activity. Alternative arrangements must be made to transport these materials to the George Town Landfill or the landfill drop-off facility at the gate which remains accessible to the public and small vehicles 24 hours per day.

The DEH is also reminding residents that following the completion of the Bulk Waste Collection Schedule, arrangements should be made by individuals to transport any additional waste to the landfills and that any illegal dumping and littering should be reported to the DEH or the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS). This unlawful practice can result in a penalty of 6 months of imprisonment and a minimum fine of \$500.

For additional information, please contact the DEH at 949-6696, email us at dehcustomerservice@gov.ky, visit the DEH’s website at www.gov.ky/deh or message our Facebook page at <https://bit.ly/3LEK55q>

In Grand Cayman:

- West Bay: May 6 to 11 → WEEK 1
- George Town: May 13 to 18 → WEEK 2
- Bodden Town: May 20 to 25 → WEEK 3
- North Side / East End: May 27 to June 1 → WEEK 4

In Cayman Brac:

- East Side: May 27 to 28
 - West Side: May 29 to 30
 - South Side: May 31
- WEEK 4

In Little Cayman:

- All locations: May 29

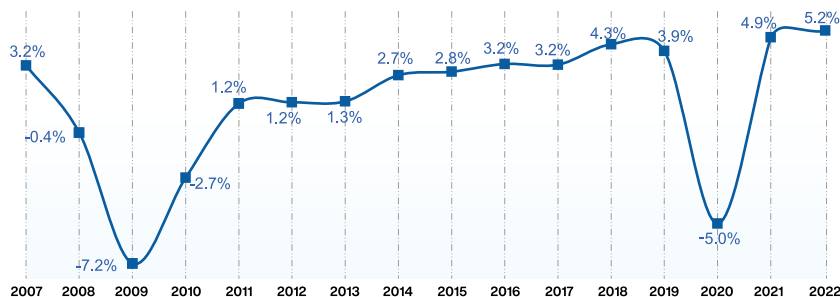


The Economics and Statistics Office

Business Survey 2024 Your Response Matters!

The economic recovery continued in 2022 with Cayman’s Gross Domestic Product growing by 5.2%, after the decline in 2020.

Cayman Islands: Growth in Real GDP 2007-2022



How did this change in 2023?

The annual System of National Accounts (SNA) survey collects the information necessary to measure the health and performance of Cayman’s economy and its various industries.

The survey runs from April 8th to June 14, 2024

Data collected for the SNA 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 244-4676/244-4608.



Caymanian Times

Issue # 983

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

Lady Pop Heralds the Start of Blue Iguana Nesting Season



“Lady Pop”, a 33-year-old Caymanian Blue Iguana, has begun excavations for her nest, heralding the start of the nesting season. Lady Pop and her 17-year-old husband, Iggy Stardust, have produced large clutches of eggs in the past, with 22 eggs being laid last year.

The mating season has been active within the Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) facility and in the wild populations. For the health of the species, Iguanas in the facility are carefully paired according to their genetics under the instruction of long-time geneticist Tandora Del Grant. The wild population’s mating is based on male dominance and BIC staff have been busy rehabilitating those injured in the fray. One of the facility’s most beloved iguanas, “Forrest,” was injured during a territorial dispute, but thankfully, after a stay at the veterinarian’s, he is recovering quickly.

Due in part to the program’s success, nest digging is creating its own set of issues within the Botanic Park as the Children’s Area is favoured by some of the free-roaming ladies. The iguanas’ natural need to protect the nest can lead to confrontations but BIC staff are working to help them find more suitable nest locations. Wild roaming females from the Salina and Colliers Reserves are also being reported crossing the Queen’s Highway and East End Road to find sandy nesting locations near the sea. Motorists are asked to keep a close eye out for them and additional warning signs have been placed to remind drivers in the area.

The Blue Iguana Conservation facility is fully occupied and releases will soon take place to make room for the new hatchlings. This effort will include 2-year-old participants in the Head Start program in which iguanas are raised to a size that gives them the best chance of survival against native and introduced predators. It will also include some of the larger and older animals who have done their stint in the breeding program, keeping the genetic dynamics maintained.

The world will celebrate International Blue Iguana Day on Wednesday, May 8th to be commemorated at a Blue Iguana Family Fun Day at the Blue Iguana Conservation facility located at the Botanic Park on Sunday, May 5th, from 10:00am-4:00pm. This family-friendly event will offer an opportunity to feed the blue iguanas, learn more about our iconic blues, free tours at the Blue Iguana Conservation facility, amazing photo opportunities, and kids can enjoy being an ‘Iguana Scientist’ for the day. The event will also include special guest speaker Ian Redmond, OBE, wildlife biologist and conservationist, renowned for his work with apes and elephants. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the event at the Visitor Centre at the Botanic Park, Adults \$10, Children \$5.

The Blue Iguana Conservation program was started in 1990 to prevent the extinction of the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana. This beautiful reptile has become an iconic symbol of these islands with its likeness being used in almost every way imaginable, from our driver’s licenses to tourism advertising. The program is highly dependent on the support of the community, so please come out and celebrate with us on Blue Iguana Family Day!

Runnin’ in di Republic ... is a West Bay ting



Saturday, May 18, 2024

Starts and ends at Ristorante Pappagallo, Conch Point Road, West Bay



**CUC
WEST BAY
SUNRISE**

5K

CUC is taking to the streets again in West Bay on **Saturday, May 18, 2024** for a fun run and walk as we raise money for the Sunrise Adult Training Centre and Cayman Athletics. Everyone is welcome to join us.

- Course:** Starts and ends at Ristorante Pappagallo, Conch Point Road, West Bay.
- Start Time:** **6:30 a.m. for runners and walkers.** Check-in time starts at **5:30 a.m.** (participants must check-in with their race bibs, which they receive when collecting their ‘power bags’ and t-shirts from CUC). This is a timed event. Race bibs have an embedded timing chip and must be worn on the front of your shirt. Race results are published by Race Caribbean at www.racecaribbean.net. **Note: Registration closes at 6:15 a.m. SHARP.**
- Fee:** **CI\$15 Adults and CI\$10 Youth (Under 17).**
- Registration:**
 - 1) Register and pay online at www.racecaribbean.net
 - 2) Download the PDF form from CUC’s website at www.cuc-cayman.com (click on “Events” under the “About Us” tab on the Home Page). Complete, scan and e-mail the form to communications@cuc.ky.
 - 3) Forms can also be dropped-off and payments made by cash or cheque (payable to CUC) at CUC’s Administration Building on North Sound Road from **Wednesday, May 1 to Friday, May 10 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.** Participants who register online must collect their bib numbers, t-shirts and ‘power’ bag from CUC between **May 1 and May 10. Note: There will be no registration after May 10 or on the day of the event.**
- Amenities:** Participants will receive a t-shirt (sizes are not guaranteed), participation medal and ‘power’ bag. Light refreshments will be provided and trophies for the fastest and second fastest male and female finishers in the Adult and Youth (Under 17) divisions will be presented at the end of the event along with a number of Spot Prizes including vouchers for Cayman Airways and CUC Gift Certificates (you have to be present to win).
- Contacts:** CUC’s Neil Murray (914-1110), Jessica Pawlik (914-1164) or Japhia Augustine (914-1136) or e-mail communications@cuc.ky or Cayman Athletics at gensec@athletics.org.ky.



Deputy Premier Highlights Cayman-Asia Business Relationships



► Deputy Premier and Minister for Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André M Ebanks MP, delivers the keynote on 25 April 2024 during the Maples Insights Investment Funds Forum in Hong Kong.

In his latest visit to Asia for Government purposes, Deputy Premier and Minister for Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André M Ebanks MP, discussed investment management, trusts, structured finance, maritime business and other matters with government officials and industry.

“The Cayman Islands has been conducting global financial services for about six decades, and our strong reputation for sound, well-regulated business is recognised and respected more and more,” he said. “Our visit demonstrated that Tokyo and Hong Kong are incredibly receptive to what we have to offer.”

Government’s Representative in the Asia Overseas Office, Gene DaCosta, accompanied the Deputy Premier to the meetings, which were held the week of 22 April.

Meetings were hosted by the Maritime Authority of the Cayman Islands; the Investment Trust Association of Japan; the (Japan) Financial Services Agency (the

equivalent of the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority); the Japan Exchange Group Inc.; the Organisation of Global Financial City Tokyo; and the Hong Kong-based offices of Walkers and Maples.

“During the meetings in each city, respective stakeholders expressed overall satisfaction with Cayman Islands financial services products and service delivery, and they foresee continued strong use of our products,” the Deputy Premier said.

In addition to individual stakeholder meetings, the Hong Kong-based office of Maples hosted an industry roundtable discussion that was attended by representatives from well-known Cayman-based law firms and top accounting firms that have offices in Hong Kong.

The Deputy Premier thanked the Minister of Border Control and Labour, the Hon. Dwayne Seymour, for acting across all of the Deputy Premier’s Government responsibilities, which also includes the Ministry for Investment, Innovation and Social Development.



► Deputy Premier and Minister for Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André M Ebanks MP (eighth left); Government’s Representative in the Asia Overseas Office, Gene DaCosta (fifth left), and Maples Partner Ann Ng (centre), at a Maples Hong Kong roundtable on 26 April 2024.

Cabinet Approves Labour Tribunal Appointments

The Ministry of Border Control, Labour and Culture announces that Cabinet has approved the appointment of fourteen (14) persons to the Labour Tribunal in accordance with section 74 of the Labour Act (2021 Revision). The appointments are with immediate effect, for a 2-year period ending 30 April 2025.

Of the fourteen (14) members, seven (7) are new appointments and seven (7) are reappointments. Since each Tribunal consists of a Chairperson, Deputy Chair and a panel of members the latest appointments bring the number of board members to twenty-three (23) and reaffirms the Government’s unwavering commitment to systems and processes that ensure the delivery of justice.

Speaking on the board appointments, Minister for Border Control, Labour and Culture, Honourable Dwayne Seymour



► Hon Dwayne Seymour

said “The Labour Tribunal plays a crucial role in labour justice in the Cayman Islands. The additional appointments were

made to ensure that all vacancies were filled, thereby enabling a fully constituted Tribunal to manage labour complaints from employers and employees.”

Noting the importance of the Tribunal, Minister Seymour thanked the new members for agreeing to serve a capacity that will allow them to make critical decisions, and contribute to the maintenance of an effective system of labour administration in the Cayman Islands. The new members have considerable experience in various industries and bring to the board a wealth of knowledge in the areas of litigation, human resources and finance.

Minister Seymour also expressed gratitude to the members who have agreed to serve for two years. Together, the new and reappointed members will provide valuable leadership and help to advance the mission of the Labour Tribunal.

The new board appointees are:
Mr Nick Hoffman – Chairperson
Mr Noel Webb – Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Luis Hernandez – Member
Mr. Gary Berry – Member
Ms. Anya Rankin-Christian - Member
Ms. Roxanne Basham-Ebanks – Member
Ms. Audrey Prendergast – Member
Additionally, the persons who have been reappointed include:

Ms. Angelita Edwards – Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Cashema Clarke – Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Michelle Coleman – Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Nadine McBean – Deputy Chairperson
Mr. Vincent Frederick – Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Pamela Duncan – Member
Ms. Nanalie Cover – Member

Cayman Islands Sees Strong First Quarter Visitation for 2024



► Director Rosa Harris

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

ket for stayover visitors contributing 83% of the total visitors.

Canada remained the second largest source market with 8.3% of visitors. The third highest percentage of stayover visitors in this period came from the UK & Europe who represented approximately 5% of all stayover visitors at a 14.9% increase for the quarter when compared to 2023. Visitors from Latin America represented 1.1% of the overall visitation total, but the number of visitors from the region grew by 21.4% over the same period in 2023.

March 2024 Performance

The Easter holidays fell during the month of March contributing to it being the standout month for the first quarter of 2024 with 57,040 stayover arrivals. This was a 23% increase from March 2023 and the second highest monthly visitation in the destination's history.

Visitors from the United States accounted for 48,171 of all stayover arrivals, a 26% increase compared to the previous year with the Midwest and Northeast regions of the United States showing the strongest growth.

The UK and Ireland also showed resilience in March with a 21.2% increase in March arrivals year over year.

"These first quarter visitation results show that demand for travel to the Cay-



► American Airlines

man Islands is high," said Hon. Kenneth Bryan, Minister for Tourism and Ports "And with the increased room stock that Hotel Indigo's opening in May will bring we look forward to seeing more tourists arriving and filling those rooms."

Airlift

Stayover visitation between January and March of 2024 was buoyed by an increase in airlift capacity with 243 more flights coming into the Cayman Islands during this period than the same period in 2023.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the destination had 226,270 inbound airline seats in the first quarter of 2024 from the USA, Canada and the UK & Ireland representing a 21% increase or 39,993 more seats than the same period in 2023.

With aviation as a top priority for the destination, in March Director Rosa Harris led a Cayman Islands Delegation with tourism officials and representatives from the Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CAA) to Routes Americas, the region's leading air service development event, in

Bogota Colombia, where they held more than 20 meetings with airlines and airports operating in the Americas region.

"We are pleased with the increased airlift in the first quarter of 2024, but it is important that we continue to seek out business development opportunities for the Cayman Islands," said Director Harris. "Aviation conferences like Routes Americas give us a platform to deepen our relationships with existing carriers and develop relationships with new carriers to ensure a steady stream of visitors to our islands throughout the year."

CIDOT's Promotional Goals: Expanding Markets and Flattening Seasonality

As stayover visitors flocked to the destination in the first quarter of 2024, tourism officials from the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism (CIDOT) ventured off island on a global roadshow focusing on media and trade engagement and expansion into new markets as part of the destination's tourism recovery strategy.

Representatives from CIDOT led by the Deputy Director International Marketing and Promotions, Gary Hendricks-Dominguez, attended the North American and European versions of International Media Marketplace (IMM) in New York, London and Berlin. These conferences allowed the destination to meet with more than 90 media and influencers working in the travel space to secure ongoing coverage and media placement in marquee publications and ensure that the Cayman Islands continue to be showcased as a "must visit" destination on social media.

IMM Berlin also saw CIDOT partner with local distiller Cayman Spirits on a cocktail reception that showcased their range of rum to the German market to highlight their recent distribution in Germany and invite a captive audience of Eu-

ropean journalists and influencers to enjoy a taste of the Cayman Islands and learn more about the destination.

Deputy Director Hendricks-Dominguez also led a delegation to ITB Berlin the world's largest travel and tourism conference with more than 100,000 attendees including wholesalers, travel advisors, tourism technology companies and journalists visiting the show over three days. The destination had a Cayman Islands branded booth at the conference with space for partners: Marriott Grand Cayman Resort, Wyndham Reef Resort and VIDA Cayman Islands to conduct meetings. The Cayman delegation had approximately 60 meetings over the course of the three-day show.

Remarking on the destination's recovery strategy, Director Rosa Harris stated, "Our ultimate goal is to return to and exceed 2019 levels of visitation, and with the positive results for the first quarter of 2024 we are on pace to do that." She continued, "Starting in 2023 with the World Travel Market in London, this is the first time that the Cayman Islands has had an independent presence at some of the World's biggest travel shows, and that decision has already paid dividends demonstrated by the UK & Ireland's significant increase in arrivals year-on-year."

As well as expanding the Cayman Islands presence through exhibitions and promotional events, the destination plans to engage with local partners to ensure their presence at critical travel conferences and trade shows throughout 2024.

"Our competition is also aggressively in the marketplace so we will continue to be purposeful and strategic with our placement and attendance in 2024," commented Director Harris. "Partner participation in these shows highlights the industry's commitment to working with CIDOT and we look forward to engaging with them as they help us develop new markets to grow visitation and flatten our seasonality."



PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS
BAYTOWN PLAZA, WEST BAY ROAD

Cayman Brac Airport Manager Appointed

The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) on Grand Cayman and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA) on Cayman Brac, announced today that Joshua Burke has been appointed to CKIA Airport Manager, effective 1 May 2024.

Joshua joined the CIAA on 14 October 2002 and has over 21 years of experience in air traffic. With several competency certifications in Air Traffic Control under his wing during his long-standing aviation career, Joshua also has the additional rating of ATS Assessor/Examiner for both CKIA and ORIA added to his ATC License, along with his current rating as an OJT Instructor, making him one of only two controllers with these ratings in the Cayman Islands.

Joshua has acted in the capacity of CKIA Airport Manager many times in the past, gaining invaluable exposure to the role that would this day become his, and stated, "I am

very excited for the opportunity as it has always been something that I have



► Joshua Burke

aspired to achieve whilst following in the footsteps of my mentor Mr. Martin

(former CKIA Airport Manager who recently retired after 35 years' service at

the CIAA) and to one day walk in his shoes." Joshua looks forward to working with the CKIA team and doing the best for the Brac people and for the CIAA overall, he added.

The two-staged interview and recruitment process for the CKIA Airport Manager position was a very difficult decision to make as all the candidates were internal candidates and Cayman Brackers, who are very talented young people with a lot of experience and passion for the role and Cayman Brac as a whole. The CIAA is fortunate to have such accomplished employees to choose from, and this bodes well for the future.

"We are thrilled to welcome Joshua as the new CKIA Airport Manager. Joshua is a very mature and capable young man who we are excited about to bring a different perspective to the leadership at CKIA and contribute significantly as part of the management team at the CIAA," said CIAA CEO Albert Anderson. "His expertise and leadership will undoubtedly propel us to new heights, and I look forward to working with Joshua to continue the development of all aspects of CKIA."

POLICE NEWS

Public Advisory: Phishing and Malicious Emails Being Circulated

The RCIPS has been made aware of an email being circulated from melin.vika@mail.ru<mailto:melin.vika@mail.ru> with a message suggesting a bomb hoax for the Cayman

Islands national carrier. It is believed to be phishing and malicious and members of the public are being advised not to click on the link provided in the email should they receive one.

The threat to the flight is unsubstantiated at this time and the RCIPS will continue to investigate the intention and source of this email.



Police investigate firearm Incident on Eastern Avenue

Just after 3AM today, 4 May, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a report of gunshots being fired outside a bar located on Eastern Avenue in George Town.

Firearm officers responded to the location and several spent casings were located and officers were informed that one man was transported to the hospital. The injured man sustained a single gunshot wound resulting in a serious injury.

An investigation is ongoing and detectives are appealing for witnesses to come forward and provide information about this shooting incident. Anyone with information is being encouraged to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Anonymous tips can be provided di-



rectly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website<<http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip>>.

Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Cayman Crime Stoppers website<<https://caymancrimestoppers.com/>> or by downloading the Cayman Crime Stoppers app.

Police Interrupt Violent Incident on Seafarers Way

Just after 12:15AM on Sunday, 5 May, police officers in plain clothes were on foot patrol in the area of Seafarers Way and Cardinal Avenue in George Town when they were alerted to a disturbance taking place at the area. Further investigations led the officers to come upon an incident where a man was seen with a machete, in motion, about to assault another man at the location.

The officers immediately identified themselves, and in an effort to prevent loss of life, one of the officers challenged the man armed with the machete using his service weapon. The armed man complied with the instructions of the officer and who instructed him discard the weapon.



The armed man was subsequently arrested on suspicion of possession of a restricted weapon and other offences relating to this incident. He was taken into custody where he remains pending further investigation by the police.

Cayman Islands Hosts Successful Inaugural Reinsurance Conference, [Re]Connect

The Cayman Islands hosted its first dedicated reinsurance conference, [Re]Connect, on April 18 and 19, marking a significant milestone in the global reinsurance landscape. Attended by nearly 450 delegates, with about half representing international entities, the event showcased the Cayman Islands' emergence as a key player in the reinsurance sector.

The event, hosted by the Cayman International Reinsurance Companies Association (CIRCA), saw a remarkable turnout, with over 110 organizations represented by delegates, highlighting the widespread interest and engagement in the industry. The support extended to the event was further underscored by the participation of 30 sponsors, reflecting the industry's commitment to fostering collaboration and innovation.

Throughout the two days, attendees were treated to a dynamic program featuring presentations and panel discussions, as well as networking events and exhibitions showcasing the latest innovations and offerings in the reinsurance sector. With over 20 exhibition booths, delegates had ample opportunities to engage with exhibitors and explore new avenues for collaboration.

Key insights and perspectives were shared during panel discussions and presentations, shedding light on the exciting developments propelling the Cayman Islands to the forefront of the global reinsurance landscape.

After welcome remarks from David C. Self, Chair, CIRCA Board of Directors and Steve McIntosh, CEO, Cayman Finance, The Hon. André M. Ebanks MP, Deputy Premier gave an inspirational presentation highlighting the 5 'seasons' of the Cayman Islands, moving from the 'land that time forgot' to a country whose time is now.

Speaking about his day at the conference, the Deputy Premier said, "The inaugural [Re]Connect conference has been nothing short of phenomenal. With local and international speakers, insightful panels, and valuable information, today marks a significant milestone for the Cayman Islands. It's clear that while reinsurance is not new to Cayman, a variety of factors have resulted in us becoming a very attractive jurisdiction. By supporting reinsurance opportunities we create jobs for our people, educational opportunities and career pathways for our youth, bolster philanthropic efforts and attract fresh talent that can assist with addressing current issues. This partnership between the private sector and government embodies the Cayman magic once again."

During the "Emerging Regulatory Topics" panel, Kara Ebanks, Head of Division of the Insurance Supervision Division at the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) shared the significant step of Cayman's application for NAIC Qualified Jurisdiction status, reassuring US regulators and bolstering the jurisdiction's regulatory credentials.

The discussion on "Cayman: An Opportunity for InsurTechs" emphasized the need for continued innovation in the sector, underscoring Cayman's commitment to embracing technological advancements and driving industry innovation.

The "Beyond the Boardroom" presentations offered a compelling narrative on Cayman's appeal, showcasing its solid supporting infrastructure and reinforcing its status as a preferred destination for reinsurance operations.

The "Asset Managers' Lens on Cayman" session featured a conversation between Paul Forestell of Brookfield Reinsurance and Raj Krishnan of Ares Insurance Solu-



► [Re]Connect took place 18-19 April, 2024 at The Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman

tions, exploring key characteristics of the reinsurance market that make it attractive generally and specifically in the Cayman Islands.

The diverse support ecosystem showcased throughout the day, encompassing life & annuity and property & casualty reinsurers as well as service providers further solidified Cayman's position as a hub of reinsurance excellence.

The conference also highlighted the approachability of the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) and its role in facilitating the establishment of entities, reaffirming the jurisdiction's commitment to providing a supportive and conducive business environment.

"We are thrilled by the overwhelming success of the inaugural Re[Connect] conference," said David C. Self. "The event not only showcased Cayman's strengths as a leading reinsurance destination but also fostered meaningful dialogue and collaboration among industry stakeholders. We

look forward to building on this momentum and further advancing Cayman's position in the global reinsurance arena."

For more information about [Re]Connect and CIRCA, please visit <https://circa.ky/reconnect-conference/>.

CIRCA would like to thank all of the sponsors of [Re]Connect 2024. Premium Sponsors of the conference include Cayman Finance, Camana Bay and the Ministry of Financial Services & Commerce. Other sponsors include Grant Thornton Cayman Islands, Knighthood Annuity & Life Assurance Company, Deloitte, IMAC, Marsh Management Services Cayman Ltd / OliverWyman, Milliman, PwC Cayman Islands, Walkers, New England Asset Management, Appleby, Talcott Financial Group, Aureum Re, Carey Olsen, CML, Conyers, KPMG, RAS Company, Expertise Group, Greenlight Re, Artex Risk Solutions, BDO, Butterfield, CIBC Re, Clarence George, EY, F&G Cayman Re Ltd., Maples Group, North End Re and WTW.

PSPB Appoints Bracker to Key Leadership Role

The Public Service Pensions Board (PSPB) is pleased to announce the appointment of Valentine (Shavon) Bodden to the full-time role as the Member Services Officer (MSO) for the Cayman Brac office.

Hired in the latter part of 2023, Ms. Bodden undertook and completed a rigorous training plan at the PSPB Grand Cayman office to learn the skills necessary to perform the MSO role and is now officially moving to her full-time position to formally support the Sister Islands out of the PSPB Cayman Brac office. Ms. Bodden reflected on this new role and opportunity with the PSPB by stating, "I look forward to helping our pensioners and active plan members understand their benefits and in providing the personal interaction and demonstrating the importance of customer service."

To get ready for the role, Ms. Bodden completed key training and education on pension administration, system workflows, calculations, and pension processes. "The most interesting part about the training was the figures as I've always loved math," said Bodden, "and with this training complete, I feel secure in what I have learned and ready to support the Brac.



"The PSPB has always made a commitment to provide a full-service office to the Sister Islands, and I am excited to have a skilled and motivated Bracker such as Ms. Bodden move

into this role," said Jewel Evans Lindsey, Chief Executive Officer of the PSPB.

"The Authority is honoured with the opportunity to continue to show our retired and active plan members that they can rely on easy to access service and receive it from staff like Ms. Bodden who are committed to providing excellence in member service," said Evans Lindsey.

The PSPB Cayman Brac office serves nearly 700 individual plan members on Cayman Brac, and this includes close to

200 who are pensioners. Since it opened in May 2019, the PSPB Cayman Brac office has offered services to meet the significant community demand for pension

and retirement services.

"When you realize that a quarter of the Cayman Brac population are plan members, beneficiaries or surviving spouses of a pension plan administered by the PSPB, we want to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to serve this membership base," said Evans Lindsey.

Having been raised and lived in Cayman Brac her entire life, Ms. Bodden recently held the role of Deputy Registrar with the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI). Her strength is forming trusting relationships, and she incorporated this skill with students at UCCI. Ms. Bodden is thrilled to transfer this skill to pensioners, stating, "pensioners have a wealth of knowledge - the interesting thing is that they think I am helping them, however, they are really helping me to see the true value of the elderly in our community."

The Cayman Brac PSPB office is located at 5 Dennis Foster Road and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by pre-arranged appointment on Mondays and Fridays.

Information on the Public Service Pensions Board is available online at: www.pspb.ky.

Music Therapist Shares Knowledge in Cayman



► Angelica Postu

When members of the SoNoRo music festival came to the Cayman Islands earlier last month to play a series of four resoundingly successful concerts in collaboration with Cayman Arts Festival, they brought with them a pianist who shared knowledge instead of her musical talents.

As the founder and president of the Romanian Music Therapy Association, Angelica Postu looks at the benefits of music beyond the simple enjoyment of listening to it. She currently works as a music therapist at the Charité University Hospital for Psychiatry in Berlin, where she routine-

ly sees the therapeutic power of music.

"Once admitted to the hospital, a visit to the music therapists is often the first stop for patients", Postu said. "They are very troubled patients, many experiencing the worst time of their lives," she said.

Many of the patients have trouble expressing themselves and the goal of music therapy is to make a connection between the patient and therapist through music, which can be received through listening or created by the patient along with the therapist. The "active" creation of music - which is often improvised and can include singing, humming or playing an instrument - helps establish a non-verbal communication between the therapist and patient that is based on trust.

"Sometimes it's the first time a patient is touching an instrument," said Postu, adding that the sounds created by the patient don't have to be harmonic. What is important is that creating any kind of music anchors the patient in the moment, giving the patient the opportunity to make a connection with the therapist.

"The biggest motto of music therapy is that there is no right or wrong," she said. "Sometimes we can create chaos on the instruments." Conversely, some of her patients have musical experience. One of her past patients, who was in rough shape and looked as if he had been homeless, asked Postu if she would play Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" for him.

"When I did, he listened and tears started coming from his eyes," she said. "Later, he started playing it on the piano himself and we were able to create a connection."

Success of music therapy can be measured in numerous different ways depending on the age and situation of the patient. For example, with school-aged children in the Cayman Islands, success might be measured in better school attendance, academic improvement or active participation in a singing or music class. For older people, success could be just getting them through a crisis moment in their life.

During her week in Cayman, Postu gave workshops to various groups, including the staff at the Lighthouse School, the staff of Spark! School of Performing Arts, staff at John Gray High School, a group of Year 10 music students at John Gray High School and an online session with Cayman-based psychologists.

Helping to facilitate the workshops was the only locally based music therapist, Georgi-Ann Morgan, who works with the Department of Educational Services. Morgan said it was good for her to interact with another music therapist, especially one that works in a clinical environment as opposed to the educational environment. By introducing music therapy to stakeholders beyond Cayman's education system, Morgan said there's an opportunity to bring its benefits to the wider community.

"My hope is this will grow," Morgan said.

Postu believes the Cayman Islands could be ripe for a wider application of music therapy.

"I found that culture plays a large role here," she said. "The people here have a passion for music."

Cayman Arts Festival Executive Director Marius Gaina said that having Postu conduct the workshops was another way in which the organisation makes music education one of its primary missions.

"The SoNoRo musicians provided masterclasses to John Gray High School music students all week and Angelica shared her knowledge about music therapy to several different groups of people. This demonstrates the commitment Cayman Arts Festival has to music education in various forms," he said. "Then in the evenings, the musicians performed outstanding concerts four nights in a row, including one evening where they played orchestral pieces with both the CAF Intermediate String Ensemble and the CAF Elite String Ensemble. This shows our commitment to providing world-class entertainment to the Cayman public and giving our students the chance to learn and grow as musicians by performing with such a high calibre of professional artists."

Gaina noted that the audience reception for the concerts was so overwhelming that Cayman Arts Festival is already in discussions to have the SoNoRo festival musicians return next year.



► Angelica Postu presented at music therapy workshop to the Year 10 music students at John Gray High School.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS PARTNERS WITH THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) has today announced a significant new partnership with the Institute of Internal Auditors (Cayman Islands Chapter) following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU marks the beginning of a collaborative relationship aimed at enhancing educational and professional opportunities for students and faculty alike in this in-demand field in the Cayman Islands.

Dr. Robert W. Robertson, President, and CEO of UCCI, commented: "We are very pleased to sign this memorandum of understanding to forge closer ties with an important professional organization in the business community. UCCI aims to build bridges from 'academic to industry' and ensure that our students are well-prepared to capitalize on the growing job opportunities in internal auditing."

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is a globally recognized organization that provides dynamic leadership for the profession of internal auditing. Activities include advocating and promoting the value that internal audit professionals add to their organizations; providing comprehensive professional education and development opportunities; setting standards; and conducting benchmarking and other research on the practice and profession. Partnering with the IIA reflects UCCI's commitment to aligning its curriculum with global best practices and providing students and faculty with unrivaled professional and academic opportunities.

Audrey M'payah, Academic Relations Chair of the IIA Cayman Islands Chap-



ter, commented, "The IIA Cayman Islands chapter is pleased to partner with UCCI, with the academic relations lead by Aubrey M'payah and James Robinson. The MoU signing marks a truly historic moment as we stand united in celebration of the partnership forged between University College Of The Cayman Islands (UCCI), and the IIA Cayman Chapter. At the heart of this MoU lies a commitment to the students, who emerge as the primary beneficiaries. We aim to foster awareness of internal audit as a distinguished profession among the student community.

"To actualize this vision, the Institute has designed programmes and events that place students at the forefront. Looking ahead, we aspire to work closely with the University in developing courses dedicated to internal audit. Additionally, for students

aspiring to achieve our prestigious Certified Internal Auditor qualification, we are eager to support their journey. We anticipate a fruitful partnership that not only benefits the students but also contributes to the growth and success of UCCI and the IIA Cayman Chapter."

This partnership is designed to foster a progressive academic and professional environment through a variety of collaborative efforts. This includes the exchange of academic staff for teaching and research purposes and provides study abroad and mentorship opportunities for students.

Both institutions will participate in joint seminars, lectures, training sessions, and academic meetings that benefit both UCCI and the IIA community. Furthermore, this collaboration includes the sharing of research materials and engaging in joint re-

search and consulting contracts, as well as the development of an Internal Audit Curriculum. UCCI will also participate in the IIA's Internal Audit Awareness Programme to prepare students for careers in this critical field.

Dean of Business and Finance at UCCI, Dr. Belinda Blessitt Vincent, commented, "The Division of Business and Finance sees the signing of the MOU with the Internal Auditors Association - Cayman Chapter as an important milestone in the relationship between the institution and the university. This is a testament to a progressive partnership that will contribute to the development of our students and the institution. I am confident that this MOU will enhance future cooperation and collaboration, and our Division is excited to work with the IAA."

RBC Royal Bank launches RBC Race for the Kids 2024 – Cayman Islands

RBC Royal Bank has officially launched its annual Cayman edition of RBC Race for the Kids - a five-kilometre charity run/walk event that will take place on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Registration for the event is open and the Bank is inviting individuals, teams, families, and sporting groups to participate in the Race, which supports youth and children's causes.

"I am pleased to share that the Cayman RBC Race for the Kids event will once again benefit the Alex Panton Foundation, also known as APF, a Non-Profit Organisation dedicated to raising awareness of mental health issues affecting children and young adults in the Cayman Islands," said Khadene Lobban, Area Vice President, Personal Banking and Country Head for RBC Royal Bank, Cayman Islands.

"We know how formative life's early moments and experiences are, which is why we believe empowering youth to reach their full potential is the best investment. It is central to RBC's purpose of helping our clients thrive and communities prosper," added Lobban.

APF was established in memory of Alex Panton, who in 2010 tragically succumbed



► Participants at the start line of last year's 2023 RBC Race for the Kids five-kilometre charity run/walk event, benefitting the Alex Panton Foundation.

to the effects of severe depression, at the age of 16. The Alex Panton Foundation aims to provide hope and resources to friends, families, teachers, and classmates to help save the lives of children and young

adults struggling with mental illness.

The funds raised at the Race for the Kids event will go directly to the foundation's Financial Assistance Programme and will result in a positive difference for Cayman

youth - helping them find peace and hope as they navigate mental health challenges.

"We are grateful to be a part of such a giving and compassionate community that continues to grow in its understanding of mental health illnesses, and whose members have sought out ways to help APF in its mission," said Charmaine McGowan, Chairperson of the APF Financial Assistance Programme Committee.

"Because of the generosity of corporate partners such as RBC Royal Bank, the Financial Assistance Programme Committee was able to pay out almost \$100,000 in support to individuals during the foundation's 2022-2023 fiscal year."

RBC Race for the Kids is a global series of charitable running events benefiting children and youth-focused causes. To date, the series has seen over 360,000 participants who have collectively raised more than CAD \$93 million. Within the Caribbean, these community building races occur in Barbados, Cayman, The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago.

To register for Cayman's RBC Race for the Kids, or to learn more about the event, please visit RBC Race for the Kids Cayman (www.raceforkidscayman.com)



Students demonstrate Spanish prowess



In a bid to find out which school possesses the most proficient Spanish speakers, the Spanish Dept at John Gray High School hosted its second annual national inter-secondary schools and its inaugural national inter-primary schools Spanish quiz competition last month.

The organisers said it was an outstanding event, with Edna Moyle Primary School taking first place in the primary division, Red Bay Primary claiming second place, and Cayman Academy taking third place, while East End Primary and The Sharon Marie Martin Primary also participated. The winners in the high school category were hosts John Gray High School who retained their championship, with Clifton Hunter High School coming in at second place, and also winning the team spirit trophy. It was a nail-biting tie for third place between Cayman Academy and Cayman Prep, with Cayman Academy taking the third place after a tie break.

For the Head of the Spanish Department, Kerita Levermore-Stewart, it was a vision for more than seven years to have a Spanish quiz competition of this magnitude.

"The students enjoyed every round," she said. "This is a proud moment for the Spanish departments across the Cayman Islands!"

Ms Levermore-Stewart wished to thank sponsors who made this dream a reality: Top Taste Restaurant, Fosters, Kirk Market, Care Pharmacy, Digicel, Spain Consulate, Mr Fred Dallas and Partyville, and key sponsor Cayman National.

John Gray High School has produced some excellent Spanish speakers, with two students in 2018 graduating with an outstanding Spanish award. From 2019 to 2021, three students were given this award and in 2022 this rose to six students. In 2023 more than four students received the award and in 2024 there were again six.

"It is through competitions such as these that some students find their super powers which have bolstered confidence, team spirit, improved study skills and most importantly increased knowledge and a new found love for Spanish as a second language," she said.

Cayman Islands Equestrians compete Internationally



► Brooke Ebanks riding WhoWhizzThatCowboy



► Hallie Giuzio riding Twinkle



► Sierra Martin riding Clair de Lune



► Sierra Martin riding Clair de Lune



On 20 and 21 April 2024 the Cayman Islands Equestrian Federation (CIEF) hosted its biggest dressage show of the year, welcoming riders from the Cayman Islands to compete in the 5th National Dressage Show of the 2023/2024 sea-

son and in the Caribbean Equestrian Association (CEA) Regional and Mini Dressage Challenge. Both shows took place at the Cayman Islands Equestrian Center.

The CEA Dressage Challenge is a fantastic opportunity for our local Cayman riders enabling them to compete internationally against the other CEA member

countries of Antigua, Bermuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad, without needing to travel internationally. Instead, the same judge travels from country to country to judge the riders.

Riders competing in the CEA Dressage Challenge are ranked both individually and by country team. Once all the countries in the CEA have completed their competitions in 2024, the final standing in the Caribbean for Cayman's riders and the Cayman National Team will be published. In 2023, the Cayman Islands Adult Team placed 2nd and the Children's Team placed 3rd in the Regional Dressage Challenge: while the Children's Team placed 4th in the Mini Dressage Challenge.

Mr. Omar Zayrik, an FEI 3* judge, dressage trainer and former Olympian for Mexico scored both competitions and noted

how impressed he was with the riding ability and facilities that he observed during his time in Cayman. "Bringing internationally recognized judges to the Cayman Islands for our shows is critical for the development of our sport locally," said Mary Alberga, President of the CIEF who also thanked Mr. Zayrik for his willingness to engage with the local riders and provide advice based upon his invaluable experience.

For the CEA Regional Dressage competition, Kayla Mannisto and Tilly Tammemagi were named High Point Adult and Junior riders respectively, while Tami Maines and Hallie Giuzio took the respective honors in the CEA Mini Dressage Challenge.

Complete results of the all shows can be found on the CIEF website at www.ciefcay.com.

By CIEF Staff

CEA Regional and Mini Dressage competition winners, in decreasing order of difficulty were as follows:

| Test | Winning Rider & Horse |
|--------------------------------|--|
| FEI Prix St. Georges | Jessica McTaggart riding Loris 7 |
| First Level Test 3 | Eppie Heaney Henderson riding Sunday's Edition |
| First Level Test 3 (Junior) | Madison Ameline riding Blue Ridge Dream On |
| Training Level Test 3 | Kayla Mannisto riding ImaLittleScout |
| Training Level Test 3 (Junior) | Tilly Tammemagi riding Knick Knack |
| Training Level Test 1 | Lisen McGladdery riding Sunday's Edition |
| Training Level Test 1 (Junior) | Sierra Martin riding Clair de Lune |
| USEF C Test | Jamie Lauren McTaggart riding Bandalero |
| USEF C Test (Junior) | Sierra Martin riding Clair de Lune |
| USEF B Test | Tami Maines riding Bandalero |
| USEF B Test (Junior) | Ebba Collins riding Sparkles |
| USEF A Test (Junior) | Hallie Giuzio riding Twinkle |

CIEF National Dressage Show #5 winners, in decreasing order of difficulty were as follows:

| Test | Winning Rider & Horse |
|--------------------------------|--|
| First Level Test 3 | Madison Ameline riding Blue Ridge Dream On |
| First Level Test 1 | Madison Ameline riding Blue Ridge Dream On |
| Training Level Test 3 (Junior) | Tilly Tammemagi riding Knick Knack |
| Training Level Test 2 (Junior) | Tilly Tammemagi riding Knick Knack |

Kartel may be freed soon

Jamaican dancehall star Vybz Kartel may soon be released from prison in Jamaica, where he has been for over a decade, after the British government ruled that his conviction for murder should be quashed.

Britain's King Charles has signed off on the UK Privy Council's decision to quash the murder convictions of the superstar Vybz Kartel and three other men. The ruling states that Jamaica must reimburse the four men all court costs.

Kartel, whose real name is Adidja Palmer, and the three others have been imprisoned since their arrests in 2011 for the murder of Clive "Lizard" Williams, whose body was never found. Kartel and his co-accused Shawn Campbell, Kahira Jones and Andre St John had maintained their innocence since the original trial.

Kartel is one of Jamaica's most popular artists and has collaborated with performers such as Jay-Z and Rihanna.

His 64-day trial was one of the longest in Jamaican history, and ended with Kartel being ordered to serve a minimum of 35 years in jail, later reduced to 32-and-a-half years.

The trial heard that Williams and another man, Lamar Chow, were given two unlicensed firearms belonging to Kartel for safekeeping.

When they failed to return them at an agreed time, prosecutors said, they were summoned to Kartel's house in August 2011.

Chow told the trial they were attacked and the last thing he saw was Williams - who was never seen alive again - lying motionless on the ground.

The house burned down days later and a body was never recovered.

In a stunning decision out of London in March, the Privy Council stated their decision Interest in the UK Privy Council's recent decision was so high that the heavy volume of online viewers crashed the courtroom's live stream from London several times.

The Privy Council effectively kicked the case back to the Jamaican Court of Appeals.

Even though they are now "not guilty" innocent men according to the Privy Council, they have remained behind bars.

Legal experts believe there is enough reason to have a new trial, which means they will start

the process all over again from the beginning with a new jury, perhaps new attorneys for the defendants, and perhaps a whole new set of facts and scenarios. Or there is a possibility they will release Kartel and the co-defendants.

Vybz Kartel's attorney, Isat Buchanan, claimed the Court of Appeal has set a court date of June 10 through June 14 to decide whether to release the men or try to bring a new case.



► Vybz Kartel has been in a JA jail since 2011



► King Charles signed off on the UK Privy Council's decision

Mottley halts big pay to Brit for plantation

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley has halted plans for a multi-million-dollar pay-out to the British Conservative MP Richard Drax for the purchase of 53 acres of the Drax Hall plantation, which he owns.

As revealed in the Observer last month, the pay-out plan angered those involved in the Caribbean reparations movement, who said Drax, the MP for South Dorset, should hand over all or part of the 617-acre plantation to the people of Barbados.

In a seven-minute broadcast to the nation released on YouTube last week, Mottley explained the government

U-turn and said she had decided to pause the purchase to allow further discussion.

She added: "I understand the concern of many Barbadians who may feel they have been robbed of the opportunity of having an appropriate settlement for reparations that ought to be made as a result of the blood, sweat and tears of Barbadians over centuries. This is not a matter we take lightly."

Trevor Prescod, the MP for St Michael East in Barbados and the lead for reparations on the island, believes his country



► Drax Hall has caused much controversy

"should not pay a cent for Drax Hall". He welcomed Mottley's announcement but he expressed concern over the word "pause", saying: "I hope I don't see a renewal of this commercial relationship with Richard Drax."

"I've been getting calls from around the world, and I would like to thank the Observer for bringing this to the attention of people in Barbados, the African diaspora and our friends in England who support reparations," Prescod said.

St Lucia wants girls to try construction

Saint Lucian women are being encouraged to consider seeking employment in the construction sector.

Traditionally seen as a male-only industry, there is enough scope for females to try construction jobs. Prime Minister Philip J. Pierre has designated 2024 as the Year for Infrastructure.

Labour Minister Dr Virginia Albert-Poyotte said: "I am of the view that there are too many women who have settled for the softer jobs and the low paying jobs because most women settle for house-keeping, caregiver and they do not see construction as an area because they have not been trained."

She is encouraging women to explore new skills adding that Pierre indicated there would be much construction work in the coming months.

In this regard, she said there might be a skilled labour shortage in the sector resulting in the importation of workers.

"Can women go into that area so that they cater for the shortage?" the veteran former trade unionist asked. She disclosed that the government has been working with a Canadian firm to help women enter the construction sector.



► Black women in construction is a still a rarity

"We felt that we need to open the door to allow women who want to go into construction to participate," she said.

She acknowledged prevailing notions that heavy-duty work in construction would rule out women's participation. Nevertheless, Albert-Poyotte added that globally, females work in all sectors.

Regarding Saint Lucia, she said that many women engineers work at the Ministry of Infrastructure. They do not necessarily need to do heavy lifting and added that women could be supervisors on construction sites.

Albert-Poyotte said there was a need now to train women for construction jobs, a task the government would undertake.

Buses, bricks and biospheres: sustainable solutions for Cayman

When 40 high school students were challenged to come up with sustainable solutions to Cayman's most pressing issues, three topics emerged as clear priorities: a more reliable bus system, greener building materials and educating young people on how climate change impacts the Cayman Islands.

On 25 April, six schools presented their ideas to a panel of sustainability experts in the final round of the Minds Inspired SDG Challenge, an inter-school competition based on the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals applied to a Cayman context.

Each team of seven high school students had five minutes to pitch their projects for the chance to win funding to help progress their ideas, with judges awarding points for feasibility and impact, as well as presentation skills, teamwork and the quality of research and content.

The winner was Grace Christian Academy's "Bus 345" app which proposed using technology to keep passengers informed with real-time information on routes, wait times and seat availability in the existing bus network.

The Grace Christian Academy team conducted a survey of more than 300 passengers and 30 drivers which showed 70% of users consider the current service unreliable. Having researched past attempts at a bus app and spoken with local technology providers, the team impressed judges with their carefully researched prototype for the app, which supports SDG Goal 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities.

The team from St Ignatius had also identified the bus system as an area for improvement, having initially considered bike lanes for their project. Their primary focus was on the congestion near the multiple schools on Walkers Road and the lack of safe alternatives to cars at school pick-up time.

More sustainable building methods

In keeping with SDG Goal 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, the teams from Cayman Prep and High School and Cayman Academy sought to find greener alternatives to traditional building materials that have a large carbon footprint.

Earning an honourable mention for their innovation and scientific experimentation, Cayman Prep's SargaSafe project proposed making bricks out of sargassum, a method pioneered in Mexico. The team produced a prototype brick, made by gathering sargassum from a beach in East End and mixing with construction dirt. Their idea extended to using these bricks to construct hurricane shelters, as current capacity can only accommodate six percent of the population.

Cayman Academy's project 'Poly Pave' proposed using recycled plastic to build roads, taking inspiration from India where plastic roads have already been trialled. The team acknowledged that questions remain about the durability of plastic as there is not yet sufficient real-life data, so suggesting starting with a sidewalk and



► Cayman Academy students present their pitch on using recycled plastic to build roads.

becoming part of the research and development into more sustainable building materials.

Green festivals

The teams from Cayman International School and John Gray High School pitched their ideas for an 'eco festival' as a way to raise awareness of climate issues and educate young people about protecting Cayman's precious natural resources.

John Gray's Cayman Coral Conservation Fair, which aligns with SDG 14 Life Below Water, envisioned a school fair with a range of learning activities focused on marine issues such as coral bleaching, over-fishing and invasive species. Their survey of fellow students revealed the majority stated a preference for hands-on learning and they proposed a second survey after the fair to evaluate its educational benefits. The John Gray team's end goal would be to incorporate marine science into the curriculum, an aspiration supported by the judges who awarded an honorable mention to the John Gray team.

Cayman International School also sought to share climate information and engage young audiences with their proposal for Ecofest: The Cayman Islands first climate change festival." The event's aim is to make learning fun by combining in the chance to interact with environmental organisations with live music and food stalls.

The SDG Challenge

Teams participating in the SDG Challenge were given two months to research, develop and present their projects. In February, students heard from experts on economic, social and environmental issues in the Cayman Islands. In March, a second group session shared tips on research, pitching and how to apply for grants, preparing students for the final round of presentations to the judges last Thursday.

The independent panel of judges included Hannah Reid Ford, Senior Policy Advi-



► Cayman Academy students present their pitch on using recycled plastic to build roads.

sor in the Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency; Cleveland Julien, UCCI's project manager for the UCCI Sustainability Initiative; Gary Gibbs, Dart's executive vice president of development; Jack MacKenzie, a senior manager on KPMG's ESG Advisory team; and Jessica Barefoot, landscape architect and owner of Naked Foot.

The judges were impressed by the effort, thought and research put in by all six schools in addressing complex challenges. Ultimately, the judges selected Grace Christian Academy's Bus 345 as this year's winner for the project's feasibility as well as the amount of research, cost consideration and input from local vendors the team had shown.

The winning school receives \$1,000 to help progress sustainability initiatives, and team members each receive a reference letter from Dart CEO Mark VanDevelde. This year's winners from Grace

Christian Academy team are Rozalyn Thompson-Ebanks, Isabell Akagac, Dylan Smith, Lacey Victoria Arch, Durk Tatum, Tashyla Thompson-Brown and Rhea Timothy with their teacher Ms Deepali Mutreja.

"The SDG Challenge is an excellent addition to our annual programme of educational events," said Glenda McTaggart, Dart's senior manager for education programmes who also runs inter-school maths and robotics competitions under the Minds Inspired banner. "It helps develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as encouraging students to think about a more sustainable future for the Cayman Islands. We are grateful for the support from our judges and sustainability experts and hope to see some of these fantastic ideas put into action."

Information about how to apply for the SDG Challenge and dates for next year can be found at MindsInspired.ky.

SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/11

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 37 Price to play
 - 1 "Hell's Kitchen" star
 - 7 Heady drinks
 - 11 Wise one
 - 12 Dryer fuzz
 - 13 Tribe symbols
 - 14 Be too fond
 - 15 Signs
 - 16 Painter Matisse
 - 17 Exceptional
 - 18 Call in a bistro
 - 19 Some Eurasian deer
 - 21 Good times
 - 22 Fitzgerald hero
 - 25 Train unit
 - 26 Made a sketch
 - 27 Tangent thoughts
 - 29 Formerly
 - 33 Clarifying words
 - 34 Salivate
 - 35 Catching need
 - 36 Dakota city
- DOWN**
- 1 Copter part
 - 2 Kitchen come-on
 - 3 Alma —
 - 4 Vista sight
 - 5 Some charity
 - 6 "You betcha!"
 - 7 Birch's kin
 - 8 Pride flower
 - 9 Chaotic tendency
 - 10 Beer hall mugs
 - 16 Rashness
 - 18 Swiss watch
 - 20 Utah city parts
 - 22 Fragrant
 - 23 Short solo
 - 24 Cursed
 - 25 Alligator's cousin
 - 28 Library stamp
 - 30 Like the Vikings
 - 31 Hearts
 - 32 Choose
 - 34 Force
 - 36 Singer Zadora

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | A | B | I | D | | A | M | A | S | S | |
| E | V | A | D | E | | L | A | R | C | H | |
| L | E | D | O | N | | I | N | T | R | O | |
| I | N | C | O | D | E | | C | A | R | | |
| E | G | O | | T | A | N | | O | P | T | |
| F | E | N | C | E | R | | A | L | E | S | |
| | | | N | O | S | T | R | I | L | | |
| S | T | E | P | | | G | A | M | E | R | S |
| A | R | C | | S | U | V | | C | H | I | |
| L | I | T | | I | N | A | | T | O | N | |
| A | V | I | A | N | | G | O | I | N | G | |
| D | I | O | D | E | | E | R | O | D | E | |
| S | A | N | D | S | | S | O | N | A | R | |

Yesterday's answer

Word Search

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

- Ankle
- Biceps
- Calf
- Elbow
- Fibula
- Finger
- Forearm
- Foreleg
- Hand
- Heel
- Hoof
- Instep
- Knee
- Patella
- Shank
- Shin
- Shoulder
- Sole
- Thigh
- Thumb
- Tibia
- Toes
- Wrist

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

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

9-15



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CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

LUNCHLADY, YOU OUGHTA SERVE ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SPICY SUGAR-GLAZED CHEESY WINGS

CHILE, PLEEZ!! THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS GUIDELINES FOR ONLY HEALTHY LUNCHES

YOU'D BE A HERO TO US KIDS

NOT SO MUCH WITH THE PARENTS

SPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE IN THE HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM WHILE THEIR KIDS ARE INSIDE GETTING THEIR TUMMIES PUMPED!

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee

YOU HEAR THE KINGPIN, JOEY?

YEAH! HIM AN' HIS BUDDY WANNA TAKE OVER OUR GANGS?

WHATEVER FISK AND THE CLAW AREN'T CRAZY!

WE'VE GOT TO BE READY FOR ANYTHING!

WITH ALL THE HARDWARE WE'RE PACKIN', THEY MUST BE NUTS!

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

DON'T GIVE ME THAT "GOOD AGENT" NONSENSE! HOW DO WE KNOW SHE WASN'T A MOLE FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION?!

BECAUSE YOU WORKED WITH OUR ORGANIZATION, AND I MEAN YOU SPECIFICALLY. I NEVER FORGET A FACE, NO MATTER HOW POORLY IT'S AGED.

WE'RE GOING TO TAKE DOWN APRIL, NORTON. AND WHEN WE DO, YOU'D BETTER HOPE SHE'S NOT HOLDING YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER.

Caymanian Times Classifieds

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We require a mature, dependable, responsible individual to join our company and be able to:

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- At least 5 years in a similar position.
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NOTICES

Her Excellency, the Governor Jane Owen

Invites Expressions of Interest

For Appointment to the Commissions listed below:

1. Anti-Corruption Commission
2. Commission for Standards in Public Life
3. Constitutional Commission
4. Human Rights Commission

The requirements for appointment vary by Commission and are determined in accordance with the Constitution or originating legislation.

Commission members are volunteers appointed by Her Excellency the Governor.

Become a Commission member and help support democracy in the Cayman Islands.

For further information, visit gov.ky/careers/sagc and apply on or before 17 May 2024.



TIBBETTS SQUARE LTD/MARKET PLACE

Application for the following position are currently being accepted at Tibbetts Square Ltd/Market Place, Cayman Brac

STORE CLERK/DELI CLERK

Applicants must have previous experience in cash handling, possess good customer service skills and be punctual and well presented. Duties also include unloading containers, operating forklift. Storing and displaying all varieties of produce to maintain freshness and quality. Cleaning and knows correct procedure for stripping, waxing and polishing floors, and storage rotation. Knowledge of meat and meat cutting, produce, frozen food and dry goods. Must be able to lift up 80 lbs plus items when required. Knowledge in Deli food preparation. Must have good English with reading and writing skill. Must be a team player. Minimum hands-on work experience of two years or more. Salary CI\$6.00 or US\$7.50 per hour depending on experience and qualifications of the applicant.

All applicants must be able to produce a clear police record. Positions require flexible hours working days, nights, week-ends and holidays. Package includes health insurance contribution and pension benefits as specified by law.

Applications will be accepted for qualified persons in writing including resume, should be emailed to:

Market Place
Tibbetts Square Ltd
P.O. Box 258
Cayman Brac, KY2-2002
CAYMAN ISLANDS
cbmarket2@outlook.com

Deadline for receipt of applications is May 24, 2024

Cayman Armoured
Requires one Security Officer
to work in their Armoured Car Division.

At this time applications **must have previous experience** in the **armoured car industry** as a Security Officer with first hand knowledge of the protocols involved.

Applicants will

- be vetted for integrity and work ethic and subject to thorough background checks
- must have Cash in Transit experience
- must be able to read, write, understand and converse in English
- must be able to write legibly
- must have a clean driving record with a Group 3 License or previous experience driving specialty vehicles
- must have a clean police clearance from all jurisdictions that the Applicant has lived in (for six months or over) during the course of his life time
- must be physically fit with no ailments that will prevent the Applicant from being physically active or lifting heavy objects
- must have previous customer service experience
- must have basic computer skills

Caymanians, PR Holders, or those with Residency with the Right to Work preferred.

Wage range: CI\$ 7.75 – 9.00 per hour plus benefits.

Email applications to: jackson@cayman-armoured.info.

Applications must be received by the 15th May 2024

CAYMANIAN PARTICIPATION SOUGHT

Caymanian participation is being sought in relation to the acquisition of a thirty per cent (30%) shareholding in the local retail business of Penha Image Duty Free Ltd., a private limited company which is a retailer of fragrances, skincare, cosmetics and clothing which operates from its stores in George Town, Grand Cayman. The total level of upfront investment required for such 30% participation is US\$6,714,000. Interested parties should provide evidence of financial ability to participate in the venture supported by a letter from a Class "A" Bank or other reputable financial institution in the Cayman Islands by no later than 31 May 2024

Please direct responses to:

Loeb Smith Attorneys, P.O. Box 31493, Grand Cayman KY1-1206, Cayman Islands Attention: Robert Farrell

A copy of any Caymanian interest must also be sent to the Trade and Business Licensing Board c/o The Department of Commerce and Investment, Government Administration Building, 133 Elgin Avenue, Suite 126 Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands or sent via email to info@dci.gov.ky.

In the event that suitable offers of participation from Caymanians are not received, an application will be made to the Trade and Business Licensing Board for a grant of a license under the Local Companies (Control) Act (2019 Revision).



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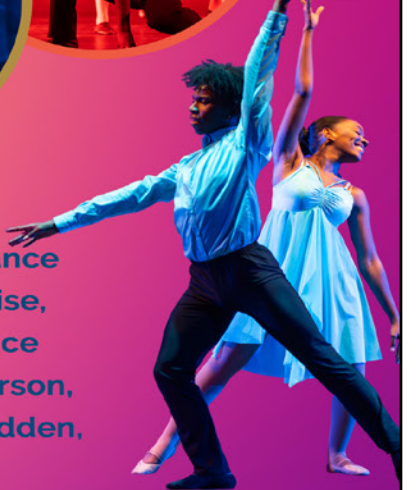
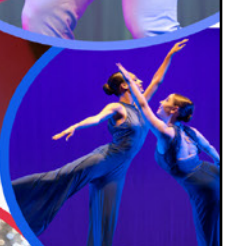
position

of the Arts

POETRY | DANCE | MUSICAL THEATER | CREATIVE TEACHINGS

HOSTED BY:

ANIKA CONNOLLY & LLOYD BARKER



WHEN:
SUNDAY
JUNE 30
2024

WHERE:
**HARQUAIL
THEATRE**

GATES OPEN
5:00PM

SHOWTIME
6:00PM

TICKETS:
PREPAID \$15
GATE \$20

TICKET OUTLETS:
NO. 1 SHOE SHOP &
WINNERS CIRCLE
SPORTS

PERFORMANCES BY:

Rico Rolando, Dream Chasers Cayman, Lloyd Barker, Olujimi Lapierre, UCCI Dance Company, Cayman Music School, Aleah Copeland, Radiance Dance Studio, Centre Pointe Dance Studio, Reyah Stewart, Moriah Praise, John Gray High School Performing Arts, Cayman Islands National Dance Company, Spark! School of Performing Arts, Yohann, Moniesa Farquharson, Pure Harmony Kids Club Dancers, Teodoro, Liana DaCosta, Aaliyah Bodden, Martinez Tribe, Cayman Arts Festival Violins, Actress Caitlin Tyson, Colindra-Rodericka, Shenna Scott, Xcitement Dancers, Terry Williams, Trifina Scott and Shante Ramoon.

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