Monday, April 8, 2019 Issue No 359

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Complimentary =



National Unity

LOCAL NEWS — A4



First Responders Train in Mass Casualty Management

LOCAL NEWS — A5

Female sailor set to lead lifechanging adventure



OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE — A6

Mamby is tapped for an **Employee of the Month**

Cayman Airways named Best Airline in the Caribbean

The world's largest travel site, TripAdvisor, has named Cayman Airways Limited (CAL) the "Best Airline in the Caribbean" and a top "Specialty and Leisure Airline" within the entire North America region.

The announcement comes as part of TripAdvisor's 2019 Travellers' Choice Awards results for airline categories, issued April 2, 2019. The results identified travellers' favourite airlines around the globe, with the hallmark of Travellers' Choice award winners being outstanding service, quality and value.

Cayman Airways is the National Airline of the Cayman Islands, since

"Cayman Airways, including its subsidiary Cayman Airways Express, prides itself in embedding the very best of Caymanian hospitality into its service, which is reflected by the Airline receiving these two important TripAdvisor awards," said Cayman Airways President

... Continued story on page A3



Opposition Leader clarifies Issues

By Christopher Tobutt

During their weekly press briefing, Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Ezzard Miller outlined a list of issues which he hoped the Premier would include in his Strategic Policy Statement (SPS) He also released a clarification of the issues surrounding the resignation of Deputy Opposition Leader, Alva

Despite stepping down as Opposition Deputy Leader, Mr. Suckoo has expressed his intention to remain part of the opposition, and to continue his work of representing his constituents as the Elected Member of Newlands.

Mr. Miller stated: "I have so far maintained a respectful reserve on commenting on the decision by the Member for Newlands to resign from his post as Deputy Leader of the Opposition. However, in view of the many distortions of facts now appearing in the media, I am obligated in the interest of accuracy to clarify the former Deputy Leader's comments.

"I initiated a meeting with the Member for Newlands on March 1, 2019, to discuss his lack of clear commitment in his role as deputy leader of the Opposition. The Member for Newlands in turn raised the issue of leadership of the group. I responded that I was going off island for a week and that he should discuss his concerns with the three other members. If the members of the group were so minded, they should bring a letter signed by the four requesting my resignation as leader. I told the Member that upon receipt of s a signed letter I would present it to the Governor accompanied by my letter of resignation from the position of Leader of the Opposition. The formal letter from the team was critical, as I had no other reason to

"When I returned, the Member did not present the said letter and never has. Instead he raised the



▶ Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Ezzard Miller

change for leadership verbally at the group meeting of Wednesday March 13. That meeting, however, did not result in consensus amongst the group. Nevertheless I ended the discussion by again requesting, should they be so minded, a formal letter for the leadership change and detailing who would be the new leader, and which I could take forward

... Continued story on page A5

The New ORIA: A Grand Transformation

"We have transformed the facility that was built to handle five hundred thousand passengers a year and increased the capacity to 2.7 million. The airport remained in operation throughout this development and last year with construction ongoing we recorded the highest visitor arrivals in our history. We look forward to the new phase of development which is to increase the runway and the taxiways. At this point I would like to remember Kirkland Nixon who passed away last year. He served as chairman of the Airport Authority from the time this project began. We will always be grateful for his contribution. I also take this opportunity to express appreciation for all who have contributed to this project, particularly the Airport Authority Board, and management and staff."

Shortly after their arrival from Cuba, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Charles and Camilla delighted flag-waving crowds by unveiling a plaque in front of the magnificent new Owen Roberts International Airport building, signifying its official reopening after three years of construction work. Their Royal Highnesses had already seen the interior of the Arrivals Hall, where the Prince greeted a line of important local people who stood waiting at the side of the red carpet. Exchanging a word and a kindly, easy smile,

... Continued story on page A3





EDITORIAL

National Unity

In her address from 10 Downing Street on Friday morning, British Prime Minister called for National Uni-

It is clear that she has realized that the only way out of the current Brexit debacle is a National approach with compromises.

This is the foundation for negotiations and our existence on earth depends on our ability to communicate, compromise and unite.

Here at home we are going through a debacle of our own as we fight with the gay rights issue.

Every individual is an independent thinker and even though many may accept the visions and leadership of a few, the time will come when we will have to take sides.

However, what is at stake is the future prosperity of these islands. Ironically, Prime Minister May referred to the UK as islands during her speech as she said, "This is a difficult time for everyone. Passions are running high on all sides of the argument. But we





can and must find the compromises that will deliver what the British people voted for. This is a decisive moment in the story of these islands and requires national unity to deliver in the National interest."

Well said, Prime Minister, and we hope that these other Islands will be allowed to unite in their own best interest as Gay Rights are debated.

We live in paradise and these small islands of 102 sq. miles are home to over 60,000 individuals who wish to live in peace, safety and harmony.

The face of Cayman as we know it is changing, and we referred to it in a previous editorial as The Price of Progress. However, progress should be measured and gradual.

It is time to keep our progress in check as we unite for the future of these blessed Islands. ③

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Department of Commerce & Investment Closure

The Department of Commerce & Investment (DCI) would like to notify the public hours on Monday, 15 April 2019. that their office will be closed on Friday, 12 April 2019, to facilitate staff training.

DCI will resume normal business

DCI staff apologise for any inconvenience the closure may cause. 🏈

Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman and Customs and Border Control Department's Front Counter Closure

The front counter for the Departments of Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman and Customs and Border Control (in the building formerly known as Immigration Headquarters on Elgin Avenue), will close to the public on Tuesday, 9 April 2019 at 11.30 a.m. to facilitate staff train-

Normal operations resume Wednesday 10 April 2019 at 7.30 a.m.

Persons are also reminded that counter service opens to the public every day from 7.30 a.m., with extended opening hours until 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings.

The Departments apologize for any inconvenience this closure may cause. 😚

Message by Minister of Health Hon. Dwayne Seymour To mark World Health Day

World Health Day is a time for decision-makers, educators, advocates, and, indeed, the whole community to consider how we can improve health outcomes around the world and in our local communities.

The 2019 international focus on universal health coverage continues from last year, with particular attention to ensuring access to quality primary healthcare. The World Health Organisation (WHO) argues that health is a human right and that everyone should have access to the information and services they need to take care of their own health and the health of their families.

This concept is the foundation for universal health coverage. It aims to ensure that individuals, their families and the community benefit as much as possible from healthcare that facilitates promotion and prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care. Moreover it calls for such services to be available as close as possible to where individuals live and work.

The World Health Organisation asserts that all people and communities should have access as needed, without any kind of discrimination, to comprehensive, appropriate and timely, quality health services, without financial difficulties.

Here in the Cayman Islands we have worked for decades to facilitate access



to the best possible primary healthcare for all persons resident in the Cayman Islands.

As a small-island nation with no direct taxation this is more challenging than it sounds. Yet I would like to assure you that Government will continue to push for still-greater strides to be made in this fundamental field of healthcare.

The implementation of mandatory health insurance coverage more than two decades ago was an important step in this direction. It established a framework through which healthcare fund-

... Continued story on page A5

CIGTV WEEKLY GUIDE 8-12 **APRIL**

Monday, 8 April 12:00:00 AM Public Accounts Committee pt. 1

1:34:45 AM	Public Accounts Committee pt. 2 & 3
3:30:00 AM	Childhood Obesity at One Health Symposium new
4:00:00 AM	Cayman's Maritime Heritage with the National Trust
6:00:00 AM	News Update
6:10:00 AM	Governor & Premier @ Cayman Economic Outlook
6:58:15 AM	Premier @ Chamber Legislative Luncheon
7:42:12 AM	Premier@Cayman Alternative Investment Summit
8:00:00 AM	For the Record
10:00:00 AM	Royal Visit new
11:48:15 AM	News Update
12:00:00 PM	Public Accounts Committee pt. 1
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1:24:45 AM News Update

10:00:00 AM Royal Visit

2:17:26 AM News Update

12:00:00 AM Deputy Governor's Awards

Tuesday, 9 April

2.17.20 AIVI	News Opuale
2:27:26 AM	Miss Lassie Documentary
2:55:29 AM	Overseas Territories Attorneys General Conference
3:20:29 AM	George Town Revitalisation @RICS new
4:00:00 AM	Old Fashioned Evangelistic Church Service
5:58:51 AM	News Update
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10:00:00 AM Royal Visit

Thursday, 11 April 12:00:00 AM Deputy Governor's Awards

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Friday, 12 April

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Cayman Airways named Best Airline in the Caribbean by TripAdvisor

Also named a top Specialty and Leisure Airline in North America

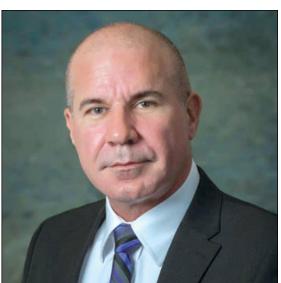
... Continued story from page A1

and CEO, Fabian Whorms. "For over five decades, Cayman Airways been focused on ensuring that our promise of those "those who fly us, love us" rings true. In delivering on that promise, the Cayman Airways family goes to great lengths to provide a pleasant and safe travel experience, filled with the best of our warm Caymanian hospitality. The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Cayman Airways are therefore very proud and appreciative of these TripAdvisor awards, which recognises our efforts to deliver an unparalleled level of service and Caymanian hospitality, making us unique amongst all airlines."

TripAdvisor said the Travellers' Choice award winners for airlines were determined based on the reviews and opinions collected from TripAdvisor travelers worldwide, and took into account the quantity and quality of airline reviews and ratings submitted over a 12-month period (January to December 2018).

Now in its third year for airline categories, the organization noted that the prestigious 2019 award categories honors 57 airlines in 91 total awards that provide exceptional value and service across the world. In addition to the world list, the Travellers' Choice awards recognizes the winning airlines in eight regions: Africa & Indian Ocean, Asia, Caribbean, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, North America and South Pacific & Oceania.







The New ORIA: A Grand Transformation

... Continued story from page A1

the Prince shook hands and chatted as he made his way to join Camilla on the stage with Premier Alden McLaughlin and Minister of Tourism Moses Kirkconnell. Although the building was officially opened, there is still work to be done before the upgrade is finally finished.

After the National Anthem was sung, Pastor Alson Ebanks led everyone in a prayer, where he asked for God's blessing on the Prince and Princess, as well as on everyone who would use the new building. Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin said: "Your visit certainly means a lot to us. Thank you once again sir, for agreeing to unveil the plaque to officially reo-

pen Owen Roberts International Airport. Your presence here, and the Duchess of Cornwall, affirms the strong relationship between the United Kingdom and the Cayman Islands. On behalf of our people, welcome, welcome, welcome back."

Minister of Tourism, Hon Moses Kirk-connell said: "In the distinguished company of their royal highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. It is my honor, as Minister of Tourism, to host these celebrations marking the official opening of this newly expanded, enhanced Owen Roberts International Airport. This is a proud day for Caymanians. It is also a very gratifying day for Government, because our pledge to provide the Cayman Islands with a world class

airport in collaboration with the Airports Authority has been fulfilled. I am happy to say that this outstanding facility has been built with cash, requiring no loans and is one hundred percent owned by the people of the Cayman Islands. We can truly say this is a people's airport.

Just before Prince Charles and Camilla pulled off the red velvet cover to reveal the smart black commemorative plaque underneath, Cayman Islands Airport Authority CEO Albert Anderson said that the upgrade multiplied the airport's capacity more than four times, and that ORIA had been transformed over the years from a little wooden building to this new facility. He thanked everyone who had worked so tirelessly to make this transformation real, adding that he felt it had been "nothing short of a miracle."



► Minister of Tourism Hon Moses Kirkconnell



▶ Prince Charles joined Camilla onstage with the Premier and Tourism Minister before the unveiling of the plaque



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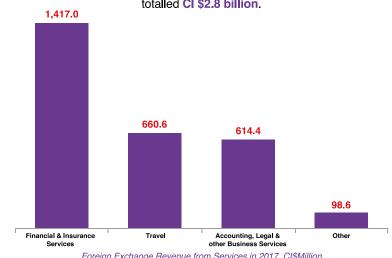
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Business Survey 2019... Your Response Matters!

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

In 2017, total foreign exchange revenue from Cayman's export of services totalled CI \$2.8 billion.



Foreign Exchange Revenue from Services in 2017, CI\$Million

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

The survey runs from April 8th to June 7th, 2019.

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

Better Data...Better Decisions...Better Business
For assistance or enquiries, please check www.eso.ky or
call 244-4600/244-4607.

Book Donation Breathes LIFE into EEPS Classroom Libraries

East End Primary School was blessed, yet again, by the tremendous generosity of charitable organization LIFE (Literacy is for Everyone) as they donated 2,254 books to the school. These books will go towards enhancing Classroom Leveled Libraries throughout all year levels in the school, which is part of LIFE's and EEPS' efforts to provide students with engaging high quality children's literature and to give students the resources necessary to become independent readers.

Some of the book titles in the donation included Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Goodnight Moon, Going to the Firehouse, and The Magic School Bus, and also featured favourite characters like Geronimo Stilton, Curious George, Fancy Nancy, Judy Moody and Cam Jansen. In addition to fiction favourites, the book donation also included non-fiction books on interesting and engaging topics like whales, the Titanic, space and planets, wild weather, frogs and tadpoles, and animal disguises.

Classroom libraries are one element to support instruction in literacy and to help students become independent, lifelong readers with a great love for books of all genres. With access to a wide range of leveled high-quality children's literature, students have the opportunity to practice and develop the reading skills and strategies taught in lessons with appealing books that are of interest to them.

East End Primary School sincerely thanks LIFE for their great efforts in providing these books and their continued and deep commitment to the students of EEPS. Executive Director for LIFE, Marilyn Conolly, stated, "LIFE is committed to supporting the students and teachers in our public school system as we all work together to give our children the gift of a lifetime: the ability to read. Classroom libraries allow children to engage with a wide variety of interesting stories and topics to support their learning. LIFE is pleased to partner with the staff of East End Primary School as we work towards ensuring that every child can read when they leave this primary school."

LIFE is Cayman's literacy charity and they accept donations and volunteers for their classroom library project, paired



▶ East End Primary LIFE Donates Books

reading programme, and other literacy initiatives. Donations of children's books can be dropped off at Mailboxes Etc. in Camana Bay. For more information, please email volunteer@life.org.ky or call

Iguana Cullers needed urgently

With over 500,000 iguanas culled to date, the Department of Environment's iguana culling program has netted significant results. Realizing, though, that there is much more to be done the DoE has announced that there will be another push for additional cullers to join the campaign. DoE Terrestrial Resources Unit manager Fred Burton stated, "If we don't keep pressing ahead with the cull effort during the upcoming breeding season, the Green Iguana population will bounce right back."

There is also a belief that there are many more people in Cayman who would like to be involved and to make a little extra money. However, some might not feel comfortable in their own ability to catch the critters. Hence, Cornwall Consulting Manager Karl Noble announced that training programs for prospective cullers will be held at the George Town landfill Green Iguana disposal site in the coming weeks. Additionally, Cornwall Consulting and the DoE are partnering with Workforce Opportunities & Resi-



dency Cayman (WORC), contacting unemployed or underemployed Caymanians via phone and/or email, seeking to determine if they wish to participate in the cull which runs through to the end of this year (DoE press release, 2019).

Basically, the cull has reached a critical point. There has been much progress, but there also must be a intensified and coordinated effort to ensure

that the gains are not undone. "We will need all hands on deck to ensure the continued success of the Green Iguana Cull Project," said Environment Minister, the Hon. Dwayne Seymour. He continued his appeal, "Caymanians who want to earn some extra money and help their community deal with this invasive pest will have every opportunity to get involved."

For more information, those interested Caymanians who are at least 18 years old should contact Cornwall via phone at 949-1544/769-8888 or via email info@cornwall.ky. Any current cullers who wish to have a "refresher" course may also participate. Additionally, You may also call the DoE office line at 949-8469 or email DoE@gov. ky. 😚

First Responders Train in Mass Casualty Management

Between April 8th and April 12th approximately thirty individuals in Grand Cavman will receive training in Mass Casualty Management (MCM). The Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) and Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HMCI) are sponsoring the course.

"A Mass Casualty Incident is any event resulting in a number of victims large enough to disrupt the normal course of emergency health care services," explained Hazard Management Director, Danielle Coleman. "This could be a situation such as a major fire, a multi-car traffic accident, earthquake or a plane crash. Some of the subject areas covered in the training include emergency medicine, the organization of advanced medical posts, psychosocial care, the

management of dead bodies, division of roles and responsibilities, and tasks of the first responders."

Honourable Tara Rivers, Minister for Home Affairs said, "Fortunately these types of mass casualty situations happen rarely in the Cayman Islands but we have to ensure that when they do happen that we get out response right. It is likely that in a major incident several different response agencies will be working together and that adds complexity. If we don't practice before we face a major incident it could easily overwhelm us, and this course makes us better prepared to provide prompt and appropriate assistance to victims, it will help us to minimize injuries and prioritize the victims so the most crit-

ical receive the most immediate medical attention."

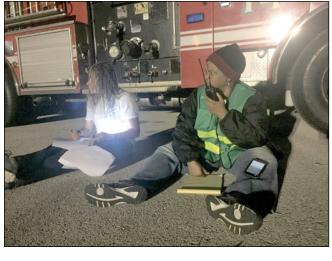
The training will take place at the University College of the Cayman Islands and this year, there will be 5 newly trained local PAHO Instructors assisting with the training. The new Instructors will be supported by an existing cadre of experienced local Instructors including Detective Chief In-



spector Richard Barrow, Inspector Ian Yearwood, Deputy Commandant of the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Ricardo Henry and Andrew McLaughlin, Chief Safety Officer at the Cayman Islands Airports Authority. They are joined by PAHO Emergency Response Facilitator Mr. Peter Burgess who delivers PAHO training courses throughout the Caribbean. Mr. Burgess is no stranger to the Cayman Islands having delivered a range of courses to our first respond-

ers over the years, including Emergency Care and Treatment, Incident Command Systems and Mass Casualty Management.

The persons attending the course include medical staff from the Health Services Authority, senior Police, Fire and Prison Officers, as well as staff from other agencies such as the Port Authority, the Department of Public Safety Communications and the Department of the Environmental Health and others. 🏵



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Female sailor set to lead life-changing adventure

By Lindsey Turnbull

According to that great ocean explorer, Jacques Cousteau, "The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever", and that is certainly true of Dutch sailor Mik Bijleveld who has created a niche business called Mik-Moves directing holistic sailing voyages for women, born out of a passion for the sea. Captain Mik is in Grand Cayman preparing for one such adventure that will see her and a group of eight women sail on a retreat around the British Virgin Islands in May of this year.

Mik is currently located on the catamaran, the Zenvy, at Barcadere Marina, having arrived in Cayman flying in from Amsterdam via New York to get on board the catamaran, assisting the owner. As luck would have it, the Caribbean is the place she needs to be, for her next voyage is taking eight women around the British Virgin Islands for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for them to reconnect with themselves through this exciting adventure. A veteran sailor, Mik has sailed the Atlantic Ocean twice, the Great Barrier Reef, the Indian Ocean, crossing from Australia to Cape Town, via Indonesia, Madagascar and South Africa.

A true calling

Mik attributed a calling toward the ocean waters that had her learn how to sail

"I stepped into that direction because I had a recurring dream that didn't change one bit. It was definitely drawing my attention and as I questioned and researched what it was all about,



Capt Mik

everything just starting unfolding without any effort at all," she advised.

Having listened to her calling, Mik said she started taking sailing courses.

"Once I was actually at sea in the Greek Mediterranean waters, it hit me that the water was opening a special gift to me," she confirmed, stating that the evolution of her ocean voyage business was a natural progression from her established coaching business. As a result, 'MikMoves' was born in 2014.

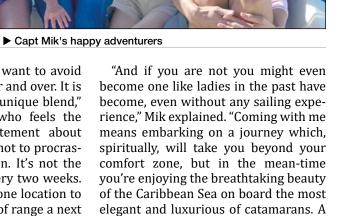
"Together with the dreams it just came to me, and it unfolded as easy as the sailing popped up. A new business name that instantly profiled my brand and, in the fall of 2015, I held the first Water Whispering sailing retreat with women only on the Greek Mediterranean," she advised.

Captain Mik and her crew undertake one retreat at a time, because they require a great deal of preparation.

"We only sail in exquisite settings and with the most elegant catamaran. I want

to offer exclusivity and I want to avoid doing the same thing over and over. It is all part of the MikMoves unique blend," she advised. "Anybody who feels the slightest urge and excitement about such a retreat is advised not to procrastinate the decision to join. It's not the kind of retreat we do every two weeks. And also, I don't stick to one location to sail. We might be far out of range a next time. Meantime, I personally try to get as much sailing time undertaking longer passages, including crossing oceans, to explore more of the world and also of myself as that too is an ongoing process," she advised.

Limited spaces are still available for the BVI sailing retreat, which is a ten day/11-night adventure beginning and ending in Tortola, BVI, for women who are ready to explore their world of possibilities beyond what they are aware of now, she said. Participants do not need to be a sailor, but if they are, that's great, she added.



Mik said that her crew had come together beautifully and make quite the feminine powerhouse team of excellent certified sailors and an unbelievable chef.

very relaxing yet focused time to discov-

er your true self."

"So, we are ready to welcome the entrepreneurial women who are inspired to be innovatory change-makers; women who want to take the next step in their ventures, their projects and life in general," she advised.

Find out more at https://exclusive-sailing.com/oceans-of-awareness

HEALTH CITY CAYMAN ISLANDS DONATES TO NFL ALUMNI

NFLA partner supports Alumni Caring for Kids Platform

Health City Cayman Islands is supporting NFL Alumni's charitable mission with a \$20,000 donation to its 'Caring for Kids' program.

The world-class tertiary care medical facility, which was founded by renowned cardiac surgeon Dr. Devi Shetty, presented the donation at NFLA'S New Jersey headquarters. Health City became an NFLA service partner in 2018.

Health City Director of Business Development Shomari Scott said: "We are pleased to support the NFL Alumni's charitable mission with this donation to Caring for Kids. At Health City Cayman Islands, a large part of our mission is to bring healthcare to those who need it most. In our five years of operation, we have provided life-saving heart surgeries to over 300 children in need from around the world. We are happy to partner with an organization that has children's best interests at heart."

NFL Alumni CEO Beasley Reece said:
"We thank Health City Cayman Islands
for this generous donation to support
our mission to improve children's lives.
Our partnership with Health City is part
of the NFLA's commitment to not only

help kids but also to provide affordable health and wellness-related services to benefit the quality of life of our members. By partnering with Health City Cayman Islands, we are able to provide our members with another excellent medical resource."

Health City, which marks its fifth anniversary in April 2019, is committed to successful results and improved quality of life for its patients. Surgeons and medical staff at Health City have extensive experience in their fields, employ the latest technologies, and together provide seamless concierge care. Patients recover in the secure and tranquil setting of Grand Cayman – which is located just one-hour away from Miami, Florida.

NFL Alumni also has a traditional mission of "Caring for Kids" across the country. Player alumni give back in their local communities by raising funds for youth-related charities through their 35 regional chapters. It is a tradition that has existed for more than 50 years. Alumni support typically raises more than \$1.5 million dollars annually for worthwhile causes.



▶ Health City Cayman Islands representatives presented the donation at the NFL Alumni Mount Laurel, New Jersey headquarters on March 19. Left to Right: NFL Alumni President Bart Oates, Health City US Sales & Marketing Specialist Mary Jones, Health City Director of Business Development Shomari Scott, NFL Alumni CEO Beasley Reece

Message by Minister of Health Hon. Dwayne Seymour To mark World Health Day

... Continued story from page A2

ing might be provided for all employees by way of health insurance, with employers and employees meeting the basic insurance premium costs fifty-fifty. This was followed a few years later by the formation of a national insurance company (CINICO) to provide coverage to civil servants, veterans, seamen, their families and the indigent. CINICO also serves to provide coverage for those with low income, the health impaired, and seniors who might otherwise struggle to get insurance.

Health insurance coverage for those 65 and over, and the fiscal sustainability of healthcare, are areas currently under strategic review to ensure that health coverage in the Cayman Islands meets the needs of our entire population as effectively as possible, whether young or old, rich or poor, Caymanian or resident.

Between the Health Services Authority, the Doctor's Hospital, and Health

City Cayman Islands, I can also say that a wider range of healthcare services is available to residents in these Islands than ever before.

I would like to take this opportunity to applaud all the efforts of public and private primary healthcare teams across the Islands. Each day they play a crucial role in teaching patients how to take care of their health, advocating for their needs, coordinating their care and continuing to build trusted relationships.

The Ministry of Health will also do its part by maintaining a focus on legislation and policies that seek to improve accessibility to healthcare. We will also strive to gather better health data so that we can target resources and make changes where they are needed most. We look forward to continuing our partnerships with the local health sector, healthcare advocates and community groups, as we work together to secure the best possible healthcare outcomes for the people of the Cayman Islands.

Opposition leader clarifies issues surrounding Deputy Leader resignation

... Continued story from page A1

as required by government protocol. This letter never materialized. Instead I discovered a letter dated March 18 on my desk, on the morning of March 19, announcing the Member for Newlands' resignation as Deputy Leader of the Opposition. No reason was given," Mr. Miller explained.

Topics which Mr. Miller as Opposition Leader identified as issues for inclusion in the SPS, Mr. Miller said he would wish to see new measures to address the traffic situation, both in terms of the daily congestion on the eastern routes into George Town and the frequency of accidents across the roads of the three Cayman Islands. "The government must solve the traffic problems, and we may need to look at some out-of-the-box longer term solutions such as a mon-



▶ Opposition Deputy Leader, Mr. Suckoo

orail to bring some relief to the most densely congested areas," he statement said

He also listed, "Provisions to alleviate the garbage collection problem," and "Proper and adequate funding for our social programs." These programs are continually being underfunded in order to balance the budget, Mr. Miller said. •

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CAYMANIAN TIMES

Statement on Decision of CI Government to Appeal the Chief Justice's Ruling Legalising Same-Sex Marriage and Debate in Legislative Assembly on 3 April 2019

3 April 2019 morning the Hon Premier indicated that the Government would be appealing the Hon Chief Justice's recent decision legalising samesex marriage. Extraordinarily, the Hon Premier admitted that the decision to appeal had been taken the previous day "based on the Executive Summary of the Court's judgment" and not having analysed the full judgment.

The Executive Summary of the judgment made it abundantly clear that the Constitution left the Court with no choice but to make the decision that it did. The judgment was based on settled legal principles established at the highest level, in the Privy Council and throughout the common law world. The Commission has previously noted the importance of reading judgments fully before commenting on them (see press statement of 23 June 2016 on this very issue). The importance of reading a full judgment before committing hundreds of thousands of dollars of public money to appellate litigation is particularly significant.

The Chief Justice's Judgment

The Commission has now received and reviewed the full judgment in Day & Bodden Bush v The Governor et al. It is clear that any appeal by the Respondents ("the Government") is weak to the point of being unarguable. This is not just because the Chief Justice ruled against the Government on every single point, but also because the Government itself either failed to provide a response to so many points made by the Petitioners, or simply conceded them as indefensible. It is inferred that the Government's experienced legal team, including the Attorney General's Chambers, did not make these concessions and omissions without instructions from the Government.

The Government conceded during the litigation that the legal position in the Cayman Islands was discriminatory. The Chief Justice found that the Government's attempted justification for that discrimination "collapses and fails at the first hurdle" as clearly not being within the law. It is a cause for regret that a decision has now been made to seek to relitigate this case in an attempt to maintain that discrimination. Unjustified state-sponsored discrimination has no place in a modern democracy

and it is unlawful under Cayman's Constitution.

Noting decisions of the South African Constitutional Court and the US Supreme Court the Hon Chief Justice drew comparisons with attempted justifications for slavery, and the apartheid-era prohibition of interracial marriages, now rightly regarded with shame and embarrassment. Referring to the arguments put forward by the Government in this case he noted:

"the Respondents can no more justify exclusion from the institution of marriage on the ground that a couple are of the same sex, than exclusion could be justified on the ground that a couple are of different races."

The Legislative Assembly Proceedings on 3 April 2019

Regrettably, many of the statements made in the Legislative Assembly yesterday demonstrated that the speakers had also not taken the time properly to analyse even the Executive Summary of the judgment.

This press release is not the place to attempt to recast the powerful, eloquent and comprehensive judgment by the Chief Justice which systematically debunked those arguments that the Government had not already conceded: if called upon the Court of Appeal is well placed to clarify the position. The public is strongly encouraged to read the judgment which makes it clear what the law is and what the Court's role is in protecting the rights enshrined in our Constitution.

Nevertheless, in light of some of the repeated and obvious misunderstandings articulated in the Legislative Assembly yesterday the Commission would make the following observations:

Many of the speakers appeared to believe that an appeal was necessary to protect the concept of the separation of powers in the Islands. The Chief Justice's reliance on s.5 of the Constitution was criticised for overriding the will of the Legislative Assembly. It is perhaps unfortunate that, aside from not reading the judgment, those speaking were apparently unaware of the case law from the Privy Council dealing with this exact point; this settled law is set out clearly in the judgment. Stated briefly, in circumstances where the Legislative



Assembly has previously passed a law that is contrary to the Constitution the Constitution itself *requires* the Court to modify that law to make sure that its provisions are not breached. This is not an area for judicial discretion – the

Court has no choice.

Similarly, much discussion in the Legislative Assembly was given over to the claimed desire of the majority of the public to perpetuate discrimination against same-sex couples, although no evidence was adduced to support this. Such an approach fails to take into account the fundamental principle - that the Constitution will respect, and will protect, the rights of the minority even if the majority will not. John Stuart Mill referred to "the tyranny of the majority" over 150 years ago. Last week the Chief Justice was utterly clear: "The views of a majority cannot be an objective basis for denying the rights of a minority".

Repeatedly yesterday it was suggested in the Legislative Assembly that the Chief Justice should have relied on s.23 of the Constitution to make a declaration of incompatibility between the Marriage Law and the Constitution, and thereby leave the decision of how to rectify that incompatibility to the Legislature. Again, this demonstrates a failure to understand how the Constitution operates and what it requires. S.23 only applies to laws passed since the Constitution came into force. The Government conceded at trial that the Marriage Law was an existing law and therefore fell to be dealt with by the Court (not the Legislature) under s.5 of the Constitution. Again, it is to be inferred that the Government's own lawyers did not make this concession without their clients' instructions.

Rational Decisions Regarding the Use of Public Funds

Having lost (or conceded) every legal point in the trial the Government was ordered to pay the Petitioners' costs. The Government is also responsible for paying for its own senior QC to fly out to Cayman, stay here, and defend the

discriminatory position it wished to perpetuate. The first trial has cost the public hundreds of thousands of dollars. This ill-considered appeal will waste many hundreds of thousands of dollars more.

The Commission receives regular complaints from Caymanians who cannot afford basic necessities like shelter. medical care or even clothing - our underfunded NAU could make a real difference for the most vulnerable with these funds. Last month the Meals on Wheels charity, which provides food for seniors, the homebound and the disabled throughout Cavman, noted that there was a waiting list for its services of over 80 people in West Bay alone. Surely these funds could be better spent feeding those who cannot do so themselves. Social services, medical care, education, policing, infrastructure, the environment, domestic violence prevention... the examples of how these public funds could be better spent than attempting to continue to inflict unjustified discrimination are almost innumerable.

This appeal seeks to perpetuate discrimination and if successful would to remove protections from all minorities, not just same-sex couples. Shamefully, it would put Ms Day and Ms Bodden Bush through the stress and expense of defending further legal action simply to be treated with the same dignity and equality that other Cayman residents enjoy. Inexplicably, it was brought without even reviewing the full judgment. Unforgivably, it will also deprive vulnerable members of our community of access to the much needed funds which will be wasted litigating it.

Before it pursues this ill-advised appeal the Commission recommends (pursuant to s.116(7) of the Constitution) that the Government review the full judgment and properly consider its legal position. Further, it recommends the Government take legal advice on its duty to the public under s.19 of the Constitution, which requires that it make decisions which are rational.

Mamby is tapped for an Employee of the Month

Cayman Islands Customs & Border Control (CBC) Human Resources Manager Simone Mamby is CIG Employee of the Month for February 2019.

Ms Mamby delivered an Outstanding Customer Experience by playing a pivotal role in bringing about the merger of the Immigration Enforcement Unit and Customs Department to CBC. She worked tirelessly to coordinate various teams and manage new job descriptions that demonstrated her absolute commitment.

Deputy Governor Franz Manderson praised Ms Mamby during the presentation at CBC Headquarters on Tuesday afternoon (2 April) for "being a tower of strength and support to the Senior Management Team to meet an often grueling deadline."

"Your unmatched work ethic together with your pleasant, cheerful disposition helps you communicate and translate complex information into common, user-friendly terms," he explained.

Mr Manderson also noted that Ms Mamby's line Manager receives many calls from the public expressing their admiration for he exemplary Customer Service and Dependability.

"What is even more remarkable is that you take every interaction with a customer or colleague as an opportunity to improve the reputation of CBC, and for this, we thank you for your dedication to CBC, for making it a World Class Department and making a difference in the lives of those we serve," Mr Manderson

Ministry of Human Resources & Immigration Chief Officer Wesley Howell lauded Ms Mamby for seeing CIG's world-class vision.

"Simone's integrity and diligence in serving our organisation speaks to her inspiration and confidence to build ability and credibility. She makes sure to communicate any information that can enhance employees' experiences and she keeps fully abreast of changing government regulations and policies. This allows employees to have a better sense of reasoning and find comfort in their decision making," he said.



► DGAP 2019 Feb Employee of the Month Simone Mamby DG and CO







▶ Ms Ricketts enjoys the artwork with students

► Sculpture is a feature

PIN students tour Cross Currents exhibition

By Lindsey Turnbull

Students got a great taste of the wide variety of art that is being produced right here at home when then visited the Cross Currents exhibition that is taking place at the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands. Jessica Ebanks, the Gallery's Education Coordinator took the group of young people - who attend the St George's Anglican Church's Positive Intervention Now (PIN) after school programme - around this latest show of artwork, giving them a fascinating insight into how and why each piece of artwork was developed.

After the tour the students were challenged with making their own artwork, based upon one of the pieces they had seen in the exhibition called The Calm and the Chaos, an exciting collage that included painting and newspaper clippings, created by artist. Renate Seffer.

During the tour, students heard that there was a total of 42 artists participating in this latest exhibit at the National Gallery, the first biennial of its kind at the Gallery. The exhibition is the first of its kind for the Gallery and is to be held every two years. It examines contemporary art the Cayman Islands and features a wide variety of artistic genres, such as painting, photography, video art, installation, drawing and sculpture.

"At PIN we love to be able to give our students the opportunity to explore their heritage and culture, and the National Gallery tour was an excellent way to introduce them to some exciting artwork created by Cayman's artists," PIN Coordinator Ms Marlene Ricketts advised. "Thanks to Ms Ebanks, the students were able to gain a deeper understanding as to how each piece of art was created. They then very much enjoyed creating their own piece of art, based upon the exciting collage



► Ms Ebanks explains the history to the exhibition

they had enjoyed viewing earlier. Our students gained a great deal from the experience and we are grateful to the National Gallery for such an excellent afternoon."

PIN is an after school programme run by the Education and Youth Committee of St George's Anglican Church and takes place Tuesday to Thursday during

term time from 3pm until 6pm. Year six students who attend George Town Primary School gain from interaction from volunteers from the community who assist the students with a wide range of developmental skills, as well as regular trips to interesting cultural and historical places around Cayman.



▶ Videography is also a feature



▶ Students hard at work creating their own art



▶ Students marvelled at Randy Chollette's work



Cover Story Tarin, Damar and Fred show off their artwork



► Some pieces are interactive.jpg



► Horacio Estaban's sculpture was a big hit with students

UK to Pay Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in Compensation to Windrush Victims

British Home Secretary Sajid Javid today opened an estimated £200 million (US\$263 million) scheme to compensate members of the so-called Windrush generation, including immigrants from the Caribbean, who were unable to prove their right to live in the United Kingdom.

The Windrush Compensation Scheme which was designed in consultation with those affected and will have independent oversight, is the latest step in the government's commitment to right the wrongs experienced by the Windrush generation.

It will provide payments to eligible individuals who did not have the right documentation to prove their status in the UK and suffered adverse effects on their life as a result. These could range from a loss of employment or access to housing, education or NHS healthcare to emotional distress or deterioration in mental and physical health.

Responding to questions after how much the scheme would cost, after making the announcement in the House of Commons, Javid said: "There is no cap on the scheme, so no one knows what the eventual cost will be. It will be based on people's needs and the claims that are made by eligible people, but the baseline estimate from my Department is that it will be approximately £200 million."

Last April, Javid established the Windrush Taskforce that has helped over 3,600 people secure British citizenship. An independent review, led by Wendy Williams, has also been set up to establish what went wrong and how to prevent it happening again.

"When I became Home Secretary I vowed to right the wrongs experienced by the Windrush generation. We've been working tirelessly to fulfil that promise ever since and have helped more than 3,600 people secure the citizenship they were entitled to," Javid said.

"But it's right that we compensate those who faced extreme difficulties

and hardship - and this scheme will go some way in doing that. The Windrush generation have given so much to this country and we will ensure nothing like this ever happens again."

Many of those affected were people from Caribbean countries who arrived in the UK between 1948 and 1971.

Queen's Counsel Martin Forde was appointed to oversee the design of the compensation scheme, providing independent scrutiny on the operation of the initiative.

"I have been involved in advising the Home Office on the design of the Win-



▶ British Home Secretary Saiid Javid said there is no cap on the compensation scheme but it is estimated it will cost about £200 million

drush Compensation Scheme, and I believe it is accessible and most importantly, fairly compensates those who have suffered," he said.

"The scheme has been built on feedback from affected communities, and their personal stories have been crucial in its design."

The first call for evidence received 650 responses and a formal consultation on the compensation scheme generated responses from almost 1,500 individuals and organizations.

The scheme is open to anyone of any nationality who has the right to live or

work in the UK without any restrictions or is now a British Citizen, and arrived in the UK before December 31, 1988. It is also open to anyone from a Commonwealth country who arrived and settled in the UK before 1973. Certain children and grandchildren of those arriving before 1973 and some close family members may also be eligible to apply.

People who wrongfully detained or removed from the UK could also be able to make a claim.

The Home Office will also refund fees paid for certain immigration applications that were unsuccessful, and reimburse certain associated legal costs that were incurred.

The Windrush generation was named after the ship that brought the first 492 passengers from Jamaica, Trinidad and other islands to Britain in 1948 - HMT Empire Windrush. A total of 500,000 workers and their families were eventually invited to the UK from former colonies and granted citizenship as subjects of the empire, to help rebuild the country after World War II. 😚

Three Guyana Government MPs Who Resigned to Renounce Foreign Citizenship

Three of the four government legislators who resigned earlier this week because of their dual citizenship will give up the citizenship that has made them ineligible to serve in the country's National Assembly.

While the government, which made the disclosure in a statement issued today, did not identify those Parliamentarians by name, it said that "three A Partnership for National Unity (APNU) Ministers of Government have indicated that they will renounce their foreign

Of those who have resigned, Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs Carl Greenidge, Minister of Public Service Dr Rupert Roopnarine and Minister of State Joseph Harmon are members of the APNU, while Minister of Business Dominic Gaskin, who was born in Britain, is a member of the Alliance For Change (AFC) which is the smaller party in the coalition APNU/AFC

Greenidge, Gaskin and Roopnarine have British citizenship, while Harmon is a US citizen. They submitted their resignations on Monday, in keeping with court rulings that persons holding dual citizenship are not qualified to sit in the National Assembly. The dual citizenship issued had been ruled on by the court when

the coalition government challenged the validity of the no-confidence motion passed against it on December 21, 2018 when then government backbencher Charrandass Persaud, who has Canadian citizenship, voted with the Opposition.

In its statement, the government quoted President David Granger this morning as saying that while he has accepted the resignation of the four Members of Parliament, their resignations will not take effect immediately as there are several processes which have to be applied.

"The Head of State made it clear that the replacement of Members of Parliament can be done only when those MPs submit their letters of resignation to the Speaker of the National Assembly as is prescribed by the Constitution of Guyana," it noted.

Article 156 (1) (A) of the Constitution states that "A member of the National



Assembly shall vacate his or her seat therein - if he or she resigns it by writing under his or her own hand addressed to the Speaker or, if the Office of the Speaker if vacant or the Speaker is absent from Guyana, to the Deputy Speaker."

Additionally, Article 156 (4) (a) states that the Speaker shall declare the seat of a Member of the National Assembly vacant where the Speaker receives a written declaration of the Member of the National Assembly and the Representative of the List issues a notice of recall.

President Granger reminded that the nomination of new members can be done only after the extraction of names from the National Top-Up list is approved by the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM).

As such, the government said, Greenidge, Harmon, Roopnarine and Gaskin will remain ministers until those processes are completed.

"The President, moreover, has not approved replacements at this time," the statement said. ③

Barbados Government Announces Gun Amnesty

firearms or ammunition will have from April 7 until midnight on April 13, to

People with illegal firearms, parts of turn in the weapons at a police station without having to worry about facing prosecution.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN BARBADOS

▶ Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs Carl Greenidge (top left),

(bottom right) resigned from the National Assembly on Monday

Minister of State Joseph Harmon (top right), Minister of Business Dominic Gaskin (bottom left) and Minister of Public Service Dr Rupert Roopnarine

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house located in **Edgehill Heights, St. Thomas, Barbados.** Recently build home in a well-established and safe location. It is centrally located to many amenities such as stores, schools and public transportation. Quick commute to several lovely beaches.

Has modern features such as granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and open floor plan.

Each room in the house had panoramic views of the countryside and plenty breeze.

Asking price is USD \$350,000.

Pictures are available on request. Please contact Simone at simgil85@yahoo.com if you have any queries.

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs Dale Marshall announced the one-week gun amnesty yesterday, during discussion on the Bail (Amendment) Bill 2019 in the House of Assembly.

"After the legislation is passed and it becomes law later this week, a gun amnesty will be offered to Barbadians," he said, stressing that unlike previous gun amnesties, which ran for as long as six months in some cases, this one would be for one week only.

"If you have an unlicensed firearm, it cannot take six months to figure out that you want to hand it in.... At midnight on Saturday, April 13, the gloves are off."

The last amnesty was in 1998, but the minister said people had been asking for another one and after consultation with police, a decision was taken to offer another one.

Marshall said that at the end of the amnesty, he would report to the country "on what and how many guns were re-

The Attorney General also warned the criminal elements in society that he would not allow them to hold the country ransom.

"I am warning the criminal element of Barbados do not test our resolve. Our mission is to get the guns off the streets. This is not something that we can be flippant about. A Government is elected



for the purpose of protecting citizens not to coddle criminals," he said, adding that the Barbados Labour Party administration would not allow a handful of "hoodlums" to "mash up our country".

Marshall acknowledged that there were some people in society who believed gun amnesties were not the solution to the problem, as the guns wanted did not come in during an amnesty.

But he explained that the mission is simply to get illegal firearms off the

"Somebody who spends \$10 000 on an AK47 is not likely to show up at a police station and say 'I am washing my hands of this'... But they could never say I didn't have a chance to," the Attorney General said.

Marshall had told Parliament that 12 of the 20 murders committed in Barbados so far this year involved the use of guns. 😚

CARICOM Competition Body Says Scotiabank Sale Could Have Anti-Competitive Effects in At Least Three Countries

At least three Caribbean Community (CARAICOM) countries could feel anti-competitive effects if Scotiabank is successful in selling its assets in the re-

That's the warning from the CARICOM Competition Commission (CCC) following a preliminary assessment on the proposed sale of Scotiabank's banking assets in nine territories - Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Maarten, and St Vincent and the Grenadines - to Republic Financial Holdings Ltd for US\$123 million, and its life insurance operations in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago to Sagicor Financial Corpo-

The CCC had previously advised that it would monitor the developments in the banking and insurance sectors and that any impact on CARICOM by the proposed transaction would be assessed in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. That preliminary assessment has now been completed.

"Such assessment indicates that the proposed transaction or parts thereof could possibly have anticompetitive effects in at least three Member States in the Community," the Commission's Chairman Justice Christopher Blackman said in a statement, although he did not identify the CARICOM nations.

"The Commission remains cognizant of the provisions of Article 175 of the RTC, and at this time reminds national competition authorities and Member States of this critical provision. The Commission also informs that it shall approach those national competition authorities and sector regulators in affected Member States in accordance with Article 176(1), for the conduct of preliminary examinations of proposed transaction between the enterprises."

In furtherance of its commitment to fair and transparent processes for both the business community and consumers, the CCC says, it will continue to monitor this activity and will inform as appropriate on further progress of this matter in affected Member States.

Since Scotiabank announced the proposed sale last November, it has faced stiff opposition from and criticism by some regional governments.

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne has been particularly



vocal in opposing the move, and as recently as last week reiterated that his government would not issue the vesting order to facilitate the sale of the bank's operations in the twin-island nation.

"They are not getting it. We are very firm on that," he told Parliament.

Hundreds of Grenadians to Get Jobs with Opening of Island's Largest Hotel

Prime Minister Dr Keith Mitchell has welcomed news that hundreds of Grenadians will be employed by Royalton Grenada when the rebranded hotel opens its doors in December.

Located on the site of what was the Grenadian by Rex, the rebranded hotel, Royalton Grenada, will provide direct employment for at least 400 persons while hundreds of others will also benefit from indirect employment.

New majority shareholders of the property, Sunwing Travel Group has confirmed that in addition to this significant level of direct and indirect employment when the hotel becomes operational, the construction phase which gets underway this month, will see the hiring of at least 450 persons.

The Prime Minister was apprised of these facts when he recently met with Sunwing's Hotels & Resorts Executive Vice-President, Daniel Diaz.

"It is heartening to hear about the number of jobs that will be generated," Prime Minister Mitchell said. "Projects like this create significant employment

opportunities for locals, both in the construction phase and as permanent staff when the facility is operational.

Government welcomes any initiative that will provide gainful employment for our people. We have witnessed a steady decline in the country's unemployment rate and we are keen to see this continue through the impact of projects like this."

Providing a status update on the project,. Diaz said plans are progressing "smoothly and quickly" and he was high in praise for the professionalism and accuracy of local planners engaged in the

The rebranded hotel, Royalton Grenada will include 59 new rooms, which will bring the property total to 271, making it the largest hotel in Grenada.

Despite the limited window in which to deliver additional rooms, Diaz gave assurances that Sunwing is committed to doing so and to welcome the first guests in December.

Training opportunities offered by the Royalton have been highlighted as an-



▶ Prime Minister Dr Keith Mitchell met with the majority shareholders of Royalton Grenada, Sunwing Travel Group

other key area that will benefit Grenadians and the Prime Minister has also welcomed this potential for capacity building in tourism and hospitality arts.

It is envisaged that Sunwing will develop a second property on the site of the Royalton Grenada, which spans an area of 30-acres. ③

Multi-Million-Dollar Project Set to Modernize Jamaica's Agricultural Sector

Iamaican farmers will be getting a £16.7 million (US\$21.9 million) boost to help them increase productivity and gain greater market access.

This has been made possible through a grant from the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) under the UK Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund (UK-CIF) which is administered by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

The Board of Directors of CDB agreed to the grant for the Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (SPAD) which will target 795 hectares of government-owned lands which will be leased to farmers in the communities of Amity Hall in St. Catherine and Parnassus in Clarendon. It will provide essential agricultural production and market infrastructure and marketing systems for the farmers.

Small and medium sized farmers will make up the majority of the beneficiaries with 495 hectares allocated for them. Some 15 per cent of the space – 124 hectares - will be reserved for women farmers and 70 hectares for young farmers.

The planned infrastructure works, incorporating climate resilience measures, will include: improved irrigation, drainage and flood control systems; and farm roads expansion and rehabilitation.

Farmers will also benefit from marketing systems enhancement, including the construction of new pack houses and associated facilities in support of farmer compliance with the GLOBAL G.A.P standard. These structures will incorporate both renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

CDB Director of Projects Daniel Best said the project is aligned with the recently launched Essex Valley Agricultural Project in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica and once again demonstrated how strategic investments in agriculture could help transform the Region's economies.

"We know that agriculture has the potential to drive economic growth in the



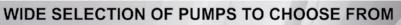
Caribbean and so we're excited to support this very significant project. A preliminary finding from an ongoing CDB-financed study - the 'State of Agriculture in the Caribbean', is the need for modernisation of our systems, techniques and structures to push agriculture to the next level. We know that farming done right can create better lives and reduce poverty in our communities. This project is geared to helping make that happen for Jamaicans and we are pleased to partner with the government and people of Jamaica on it," said Best.

He also highlighted the project's focus on creating linkages with other industries, particularly retail, processing and tourism, adding:

"Aligning agriculture and tourism, another major industry in Jamaica, was also a key factor in our support for this project. As it stands right now, the demands of high value markets within the tourism and retail sectors are largely met by imports. If we equip our farmers with state-of-the-art systems, they can provide high quality, safe and nutritious products to those markets in a timely and consistent manner."

The project is consistent CDB's corporate priority of supporting agriculture and rural development and its strategic objectives of supporting inclusive and sustainable growth. It also aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to end poverty and zero hunger as well as SDG 5 of gender equality and SDG 8 of decent work and economic growth. 😚











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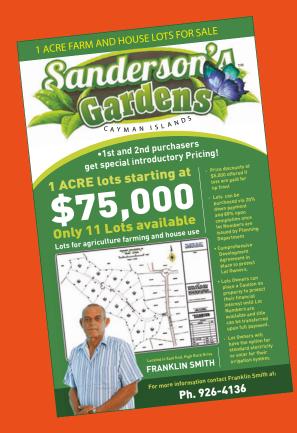
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GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

Filipino police accused of massacre

Police in the Philippines say they have shot and killed a group of suspected rebels, but human rights groups have claimed the men were mainly elderly farmers and have slammed the "massacre."

Philippine police said on Sunday that 14 suspected communist rebels were killed after they opened fire on officers conducting

weapons raids. Rights groups said the victims were all farmers, some elderly.

The men were killed during three separate incidents in the central Philippine island of Negros. Police said dozens of officers, backed by army troops, has been conducting home searches for unlicensed firearms on Saturday when the 14 men violently fought back. Fifteen other suspects were arrested during the raids, police said. Negros is home to the country's wealthiest landowners and its poorest farm workers. Human rights and farmers' groups slammed the killings and called for an independent investigation. They say six farmers were killed and more than 50 others arrested in similar police raids in December.

An official from rights group Karapatan described the violence as a massacre on farmers asserting their rights to



▶ Police in the Philippines are under the spotlight again

land. The agricultural workers' federation said the deaths highlighted growing rights violations on Negros. The Philippine rights body expressed "grave concern" over what it called a rising number of killings.

Police denied the 14 men killed were victims of extrajudicial killings. Aside from illegal firearms, police said they were looking for guerrillas from the communists' armed wing, the New People's Army suspected of attacks on police officers.

Communist guerrillas have waged one of Asia's longest-running insurgencies in the Philippines. About 40,000 combatants and civilians have been killed in the violence. It has also stunted economic growth, handed the military greater powers and unleashed a cycle of human rights abuses. 🏵

Mum and son drive with dead dad

Canadian police say they're investigating after a family attempted to cross into Canada with the corpse of a parent in the back of a van.

The van's passengers were a man in his 60s and his two parents, one alive and one deceased. Police say that the call was initially for an unconscious person in the back of the van but when paramedics attended the scene they

found that the man had been dead for at least two days. Police say they stopped the van at around 2:30am on Sunday at Quebec's Hemmingford crossing and are investigating.

The man and his two elderly parents were reportedly driving back to Canada after a trip to Florida. During the long drive home the father suffered a heart attack and died en route to Can-

The mother and son reportedly didn't want to use the American healthcare system and, once he died, didn't want to deal with repatriating the body from America to Canada (which can also be pricey). So, with the cost of medical treatment and flying his body back to Canada in their mind, they continued their drive north.



▶ The Canadians pair got through the US border

Making the choice to drive for miles upon miles with the slowly decomposing body of a loved one is incredibly morbid stuff, but one can see the logic in it. For many Canadians a surprise medical expense in the States can break them financially.

It's a well-known fear for Canucks travelling to the US - who get hurt, don't have adequate travel insurance, are forced into the American healthcare system and suddenly are bankrupt because of a fall. For example, if you break your leg down south it could cost someone upwards of \$20,000. The horror stories are abundant throughout Canadian media. One man who was pretty banged up in a car accident ended up owing US health care providers \$325,000. 🏵

Honduras offended by Mexico caravan claims

The government of Honduras said it rejected comments by a Mexican minister that the "mother of all caravans," with more than 20,000 people, was being organised in the Central American

Honduran foreign minister Maria Dolores Aguero sent a letter to her Mexican counterpart, Marcelo Ebrard, calling the statements "unsubstantiated" and potential "triggers for illegal migration."

Mexican Interior Minister Olga Sanchez Cordero said that the government was aware that "a new caravan is being formed in Honduras that they call the mother of all caravans. They are thinking that it can be more than 20,000 people." The Mexican interior ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

President Donald Trump threatened to close the US border with Mexico next week, potentially disrupting millions of legal border crossings and billions of dollars in trade, if Mexico does not stop migrants from reaching the United States.

Trump has repeatedly vowed to close the US border with Mexico during his two years in office but has not followed through.



► Honduran migrants clash with Mexican police

Hemingway centre opens in Havana

A restoration centre to preserve the work of Ernest Hemingway has opened in Cuba, highlighting an area of cooperation with the US even as bilateral relations between the old cold war foes have chilled again.

Hemingway, who won the Nobel prize in literature in 1954, wrote some of his bestknown works during the 21 years he lived at Finca Vigía,

or Lookout Farm, now a museum in San Francisco de Paula on the outskirts of Havana.

The restoration centre, built by the Cuban National Cultural Heritage Council and Finca Vigía Foundation of the US, is located on the 15-acre property where Hemingway lived in a tree-shaded, Spanish-style home.

"When we come together, when we work together, we can do positive and amazing things," Jim McGovern, a US congressman for Massachusetts said at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Mr McGovern said the project would have been much easier were it not for the decades-old US trade embargo on



▶ Hemingway admirers flocked to the centre

Cuba that President Donald Trump has tightened since coming to power.

Hemingway moved to Finca Vigía 1939, the year before 'For Whom the Bell Tolls' was published and wrote 'The Old Man and the Sea', 'A Moveable Feast' and 'Islands in the Stream' while he was there, according to local scholars.

He left Cuba in 1960, a year after the Cuban revolution and a few months before he killed himself in Idaho at 61.

The writer left thousands of documents in Cuba, ranging from manuscripts of some of his works to letters, as well as photographs and annotated books. 😚

President-elect Guaido could be jailed

Venezuela's Supreme Court has called for opposition leader Juan Guaido to be stripped of his parliamentary immunity, in a move that could soon lead to his imprisonment.

On Monday, Supreme Court Justice Maikel Moreno said Mr Guaido should be prosecuted for violating a travel ban, after the National Assembly leader toured several Latin American countries a few weeks ago.

The pro-government Constituent Assembly is expected to back the request over the coming days.

It comes at a time when Guaido and President Nicolas Maduro are locked in a battle for power in the oil-rich, but cash-poor, country.

The court ruling fuelled has fears that Mr Guaido could soon face arrest at the direction of Maduro. However, such a move remained unlikely given the threat of U.S. military intervention.

The Supreme Court has already banned Mr Guaido from holding office for a period of 15 years and arrested his chief of staff on terrorism charges.

In mid-January, the opposition leader took to the streets of Caracas and announced himself as the country's rightful interim president.

More than 50 countries, including the US and most Latin American and Euro-



▶ President-elect Guaido could be jailed

pean countries, have since recognised Mr Guaido as the legitimate leader of Venezuela.

Fabiana Rosales, a 26-year-old activist and the wife of opposition leader Juan Guaido, recently said she had grave concerns about the safety of her husband.

"I fear for my husband's life," Ms Roslaes said, when speaking alongside President Donald Trump in the Oval Office late last month.

Pressure is building on Mr Maduro to step down.

The socialist leader has overseen a long economic meltdown, marked by hyperinflation, mounting US sanctions and collapsing oil production.

As a result, some three million Venezuelans have fled abroad over the past five years to escape worsening living conditions.

Nonetheless, Mr Maduro has retained the crucial backing of the military. 😚

UK rum drinkers relieved

Rum drinkers in the UK will continue to enjoy Caribbean products thanks to a new official agreement.

Businesses in the UK and consumers are set to benefit from the trade continuity agreement which will be enforced with the Caribbean after the UK leaves

The Cariforum-UK Economic Partnership Agreement was signed on March 22 by UK trade policy minister George Hollingbery and ministers and representatives from Barba-

dos, Belize, The Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, The Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The agreement has been welcomed by the West Indies Rum and Spirits Producers Association which represents brands such as Appleton, Angostura and Mount Gay Rum.

There will be no tariffs placed on all goods imported into the UK from those states that have signed the deal. Caribbean states will also continue to gradually cut import tariffs on most of the region's imports from the UK.

As well as rum, the UK is a key market for bananas and sugar cane. In 2017 it bought 100 percent of Saint



▶ Barbados rum ranks with the Caribbean's best

Lucia's banana exports, as well as 69 percent of Belize's banana exports, and 81 percent and 64 percent respectively of Guyana and Jamaican sugar cane exports. In 2017, the total trade between the UK and the Caribbean was worth around \$3 billion.

Minister for trade policy, George Hollingbery said: "I am delighted to sign this agreement today as it will allow businesses to continue trading like they do today after we leave the European Union.

"It will help to support jobs in the UK and throughout the Caribbean, as well as ensuring that the British supermarkets shelves continue to be stocked with the best Caribbean produce such as bananas, sugar and rum." 😚

DOWN

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4 Kind of

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5 Ginger

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6 Outcast

7 Relaxed

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CAYMANIAN TIMES

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 1 FDR pooch

5 Didn't punish 11 Weary

sigh **12** Environmental topic

13 Peril 14 Sports sites

15 Sudan

neighbor 17 Conclude 18 Fancy neckwear 22 Narrow

24 Profound **25** In the past 26 Dine late

shelf

27 River part 30 Sad sack **32** The Jetsons'

dog **33** "The Bells" writer

34 Nile spanner 38 Shrewd

41 Vanished 42 Smiled broadly

43 Lot buy 44 Flower parts

45 Crockpot contents

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Yesterday's answer

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9 Baseball	goof	dances
stat	22 Tibetan	35 Marries
10 — Moines	monk	36 Cost of a

23 They may hand 37 Cat call clash 28 Emotional 38 Crunch wound targets 29 Low-cost 39 Spot

40 Call on

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/

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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									
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Difficu	lty Lev	el ★★	*		•	-	•	6/28	

Answer to previous puzzle

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Word Search

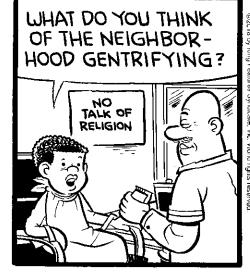
K C I H C F B Y D S H S S O P OBEBSUSONSTSAU ERUEGAHNCATEOUX WINGTOHKEUCRIO TMWBCWRMLMAJYE OHCTBRFECMS ETIEMONKOOSMI BGYDOLRFWRDRNV NMTMWCARENUDGO RWCLUBSPVNELTUR OWDPAIENITALSP YDHALLERSMTBCLM GAOMRVALAESBII KUDFDBTVMILESD VYLWNDLIILFMFM

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

Improvise Acid Basie Jam Bebop Latin Blues Miles Mingus Chick Clubs Monk Down Beat **New Orleans** Ornette Duke Satchmo Festival Sax Free Swing Yardbird Funk

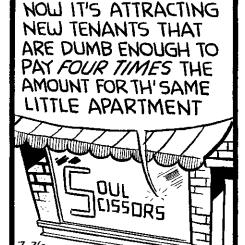
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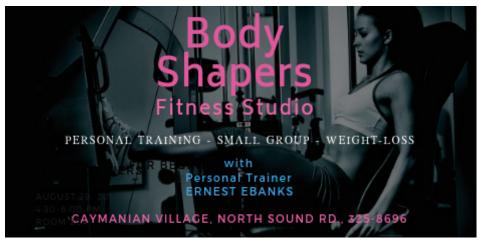
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