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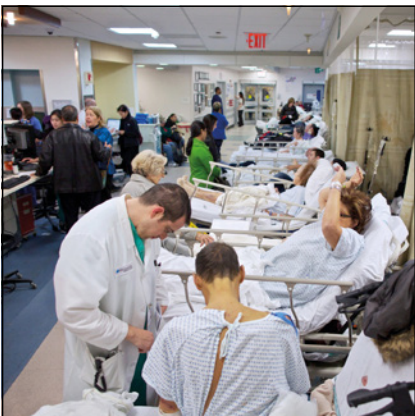
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UK fears 250,000 could die

## Keeping our elderly safe



► (Photo by Elphina Jones)

By Lindsey Turnbull

An emerging statistic coming out of the COVID-19 corona virus pandemic is the vulnerability of the elderly, who, should they contract the virus, are considerably more likely to die than younger generations. For this reason, the community is now being asked to play its part in protecting this vulnerable group.

Within local communities, the Community Emergency Response Team

(CERT), operated by Hazard Management, is gearing up to ensuring that the elder generation is protected. In the Prospect/Red Bay area, for example, neighbours are being asked to update their information on a What's App group and to include information such as whether there are any seniors within the household over 70, whether there are any disabled or bedridden people in the home and whether there are any people medically trained. In this way the

CERT teams can assess who is vulnerable and who can help in a time of crisis.

**Maintain a distance**

An important step in preventing the elderly from catching the corona virus is to maintain a distance from them. To this end, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has suspended all social visits until further notice.

... Continued story on page A2

## CAYMAN COVID-19: More new measures announced

The new Cayman Islands coronavirus testing facility has returned its first results.

Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee reported that of the 20 samples tested, all but one was from Health City. The

other was referred through the Health Service Authority.

The preliminary results have all shown negative results for the virus

... Continued story on page A3



## A Cascade of Business Closures in Cayman



The economic fallout from global concerns in relation to Covid 19/Corona Virus is causing a cascade of business closures across the Grand Cayman.

Many businesses are finding it difficult to keep their doors open after the Islands' government instituted strict guidelines around how many people can congregate in certain areas in addition to suggesting visitors and residents practice social distancing; (usually a distance of 6 feet between individuals).

... Continued story on page A6

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# EDITORIAL

## A role for all of us

To say uncertain times lay ahead could very well be an understatement. The Cayman Islands, like other countries around the world, are taking steps to safeguard their people from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, businesses but ultimately people will feel not just a pinch but real pain. As the saying goes, the struggle is real.



The tourism and entertainment industries have been shut down for the foreseeable future. Those industries and others with weekly paid earners are among the most vulnerable and one can't blame workers for feeling anything other than bleak. A number of business would have unknowingly closed their doors for the last time or will likely do so in the coming days.

Utility companies must also be credited for putting a halt to disconnections for the time being, and financial institutions have promised to work with those impacted so they don't run headfirst into foreclosure. At least one supermarket has made it easier for the elderly, disabled and pregnant to get in and out with as much ease as possible.

Meantime, government is trying to lessen the impact of its decisions to ward off COVID-19 by providing one-

off payments to those who require government benefits for survival. At the Caymanian Times, we have provided government with free advertising to allow them to get their messages to the public while spending that money assisting those in our community who need it the most.

The truth is that not all businesses will fold. To those who appear to be able to weather the storm, at least in the short term, the question you should be asking yourself is how can we assist the community in these uncertain times?

Let's find ways to help each other as we navigate these uncertain waters. In doing so, we'll help ensure that we all get through the storm together and be able to enjoy the brighter days when they come. 🌐



► (Photos by Elphina Jones)

# Keeping our elderly safe

... Continued story from page A1

tice to the Kirkconnell Community Care Centre, Cayman Brac; Golden Age Home and Maple House in Grand Cayman.

"Older people and vulnerable individuals have increased susceptibility to the upper respiratory complications caused by coronavirus. Some are immunosuppressed with chronic ailments including heart disease, diabetes and asthma. Other residents have a range of underlying health conditions; therefore, this decision is being undertaken in the best interests of the home's residents," the DCFS stated.

The department said they were mindful that this decision would be difficult for some residents and their families, so they were exploring alternative methods of maintaining contact between residents and their families. Staff were also keeping residents engaged through a variety of indoor and outdoor activities within their respective facilities, they said.

"Given the rapidly evolving situation, this isolation measure will be reviewed periodically and will be lifted once the threat is known to have diminished sufficiently," the DCFS stated.

At Monday's press conference on the corona virus, Premier Alden McLaughlin announced that flights between the Sister islands and Grand Cayman would be temporarily restricted. This was to try and ensure that the elderly on Cayman Brac were not exposed to the deadly virus.

"Inter-Island flights will continue; however, flights from Grand Cayman into Cayman Brac and Little Cayman will be restricted to residents and essential persons, for example, medical staff, etc.," the Premier advised. "This because, as we all know, Cayman Brac has a significant elderly population and we want to ensure that they are protected."

### Supermarkets step up

But many elderly people will still look to shop for themselves, so Cayman's supermarkets have stepped up to the

plate. Fosters has asked the public to respect their dedicated shopping hour for the elderly, disabled and pregnant.

"To assist those who are more vulnerable within our community, we will have a dedicated shopping hour from 6AM-7AM for the elderly and those with a disability," a release said from the store. "This will come into effect from Tuesday 17th March, at all Foster's Supermarket and Priced Right locations. The wider public are asked to respect this hour as it has been allocated for the elderly and disabled."

Kirk Market has reserved checkout lane 14 for seniors (i.e. those aged 60 and over) only.

Kirk Market management said: "We are going the extra mile, constantly working on viable and realistic solutions to ensure that the entire community can have a comfortable shopping experience in our store."

Hurley's supermarket is currently the only supermarket with an online delivery service. While the elderly might not be able to place orders online that easily, friends and family can place an order for them, which will be delivered to the elderly person's door. Home delivery staff will leave the order at the door and will not enter homes to ensure they are practicing the necessary measures of social distancing.

"We are ensuring that our online ordering team is fully equipped and staffing is maximised to ensure we can continue to deliver orders to the homes of Cayman. We are playing our part in keeping Cayman safe," the supermarket said.

If you have an elderly or infirm person in your neighbourhood, make sure they have adequate food and supplies, don't panic buy in stores which might deprive an elderly person of much needed items, keep your distance to avoid any possible contamination and keep in touch with them. Regular communication is not only important for checking on physical well-being, it offers a comfort blanket of support for mental health as well. 🌐



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Churchill's Funeral Home offers sympathy to those who might have lost their loved one, friend or colleague during these challenging times especially since the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Our primary concern is the safety of the families we serve, the public that visits our Funeral Home and our staff as well as the emotional needs of the families that we serve.

We would like to provide information to help you during these times and answer any questions you may have.

- A - If my loved one is affected and passes, can we have a funeral?  
Yes, you can have a funeral service adhering to the information detailed in 'C'.
- B - How safe are affected deceased loved ones?  
Our professional staff are some of the most experienced and finest in the Cayman Islands, as well is our preparation and facilities. With Proper embalming and Sanitation there are no documented public health threats.
- C - As indicated by the Government, it is against the law to have more than 50 persons in attendance at a public place, although Funerals are not expressly mentioned to adhere to this we are still conscious of the purpose of these restrictions which is to allow Social Distancing.
- D - In light of this the Churchill's Funeral Home Staff will now be providing live-streaming to those who may want to pay their last respects from home. (Go to our Facebook page and website to get dates and times for funerals.) At each Funeral, the Churchill's Funeral Home Staff will provide sanitization products and will be opening doors.
- E - Our facilities are continually being sterilized bearing in mind the safety of those who may be visiting us regarding planning of their loved one's service.

Please feel free to contact us at the below number should you have any questions or concerns. Let us also keep those whose health are directly affected as well as their caregivers in our prayers.

Tel: 345-943-4663 or [churchills@candw.ky](mailto:churchills@candw.ky)



## Caymanian Times

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# HMCIPS Takes Steps to Protect Prisoners against COVID-19

Consistent with the approach of the Cayman Islands Government, Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) has taken proactive steps to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 to prisoners and staff.

With immediate effect, a number of control measures have been introduced including essential restrictions to visitation at both HMP Fairbanks and HMP Northward.

The Director of Prisons, Mr. Steven Barrett has today (Tuesday, 17 March) announced that all routine visits to prisoners will be suspended while visits by legal representatives and police will be permitted albeit under restricted conditions.

Director Barrett has also advised that volunteers who would normally attend both prisons to deliver a range of services will no longer be permitted.

These restrictions will be reviewed after 30 days.

Other internal restrictions will be introduced to reduce the flow of people

entering the prison as the situation develops. This may include a revised staff attendance arrangement if it is deemed necessary.

Consideration will also be given to whether a reduced schedule of other internal programmes and services will be required.

In addition to imposing restrictions aimed at limiting the movement of people, HMCIPS has already taken steps to enhance the existing levels of personal and environmental hygiene at all their sites.

Working closely with partners from the Health Services Authority, isolation areas at both Fairbanks and Northward have been identified and prepared should any suspected case emerge.

Speaking of these restrictions, Director Barrett, said, "The health of the prison community, both staff and prisoners, is our uppermost priority at this time. An outbreak of COVID-19 within a prison environment could have particularly serious implications. Many of our pris-



oners present with underlying medical conditions that would increase their vulnerability if exposed to COVID-19. It is imperative therefore, that we take reasonable and responsible steps to mitigate against this."

He continued, "While the decision to cancel visits was entirely necessary, we

do appreciate the importance of maintaining family contact and are considering a range of initiatives to ensure that we can continue to facilitate this as much as possible. This is a whole community issue and we are taking a whole community approach to dealing with it".

# Ministry of Health stresses self-isolation and social distancing

Self-isolation and social distancing have emerged as two of the main tools in the fight against novel coronavirus COVID-19.

With the outbreak impacting how people interact with each other, the Ministry of Health says in order to minimise the spreading of the virus, changes in behaviour have become necessary given the risk to individual and community health.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr. John Lee explains that "the practices of self-isolating and maintaining social distancing have proven successful in halting the spread of coronavirus in other countries."

Dr. Lee advises that "limiting any potential exposure to COVID-19 is our best defence against transmitting the virus."

"Changing our behaviour may seem difficult or inconvenient but we must think about the most vulnerable in our community and do whatever we can to protect them," he says.

In this regard the Ministry is reminding the public of the symptoms to look out for and vital steps which should be taken.

Persons who should self-isolate have been placed into two main categories to ensure that the process is effective.

## Individuals in the Cayman Islands

Anyone who believes they may have come in contact with someone who has coronavirus should self-isolate at home for 14 days.

Anyone who shows symptoms of coronavirus should self-isolate at home for 14 days. Symptoms include a cough, fever or shortness of breath.

In both cases, the individual should also contact the 'Flu Hotline on 1-800-534-8600 or 947-3077 to inform the Health Services Authority and seek medical advice. Alternatively, they may also contact their regular GP via phone.

## Persons travelling from overseas

Individuals arriving from anywhere overseas are required to self-isolate at home for 14 days whether they show any symptoms of coronavirus or not.

Those who display symptoms including a cough, fever or shortness of breath, are also required to contact the 'Flu Hot-



line or their regular GP to seek medical advice.

If a member of a household is required to self-isolate, due to any of the circumstances described above, everyone in the household are also required to self-isolate, even if they do not show symptoms.

Members of the household should limit their contact and maintain a distance of 6 feet distance from the person who is suspected of having coronavirus.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr. John Lee points out: "If we don't isolate the whole household, then the effect of isolating the individual is negated and the rest of the community is at risk."

"The practices of self-isolating and maintaining social distancing have proven successful in halting the spread of coronavirus in other countries"

For more about how to self-isolate, individuals should visit: [www.explore.gov.ky/news/coronavirus-resources](http://www.explore.gov.ky/news/coronavirus-resources).

# CAYMAN COVID-19: New measures announced

... Continued story from page A1

causing COVID-19. They will now be sent on to CARPHA for further confirmation.

The patients will remain in isolation pending confirmation of their test outcomes.

Meanwhile, Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin has announced that Cabinet has put more measures in place as efforts continue to limit and control the spread of COVID-19 in Cayman.

These measures are a mixture of financial support, advice on self-isolation and scaling back of some private sector operations.

## SUPPORT

Due to the economic impact of the virus and the measures Government are taking to constrain its spread, a one-time emergency COVID 19 stipend will be made to permanent financial assistance recipients.

This is to help them better prepare with additional provisions and medical expenses.

This one time stipend of CI \$425 will be provided in addition to the \$850 they currently receive monthly as their regular stipend and will be paid on 30th March 2020.

Currently, 1,025 people receive permanent financial assistance, this includes 841 seamen and 81 veterans.

The Government will also make a one-time stipend payment on 30th March 2020 to families who are currently in receipt of food vouchers to accommodate additional supplies.

Currently, Government supports 311 families with food vouchers.

Government is also expecting a doubling in the number of families currently supported and are budgeting to cover a 3 month period.



Responding to a query on Caymanians unemployed as a result of the tourism industry contraction, Premier McLaughlin said the Needs Assessment Unit (NAU) is being geared up with redeployed personnel and additional budget to process applications using means-testing which they will handle via phone or email.

## CLOSURES

Starting from midnight on Sunday 22nd March all bars will be closed and restaurants will be restricted to take out and delivery only.

In addition, all gyms, spas and public swimming pools will close as of the same date for an initial two-week period.

## SELF-ISOLATION

Regarding the need for certain segments of the population to self-isolate, Mr McLaughlin appealed to them to be responsible and voluntarily follow the prescribed guidelines.

He specifically appealed to students who have already returned from the US and some 470 students who will be re-

turning from the UK in the next few days to not treat this as a spring break and not gather in groups big or small.

Returning residents coming off the BA flights on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday will each be provided with a messaging sheet about what they should do, notably self-isolate for 14 days, so that everyone gets the message.

The Premier emphasised that "this is a real health threat, a major threat to families and friends, but particularly

older members and the most vulnerable in our community."

## SUPPLIES

Mr McLaughlin has also reassured that there is no truth in rumours of Cayman being faced with shortages.

Dismissing such rumours as 'fake news', the Premier reiterated that there is absolutely no truth that cargo ships would be stopped from bringing goods to the Islands.

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# REGISTRATION NOTICE

section 13(2)

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

(a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **Cayman Brac East and Cayman Brac West & Little Cayman** electoral district(s) and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district(s) on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.

(b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

(a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or

(b) he or she –

- i) is a Caymanian; and
- ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
- iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
- iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;

or

(c) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
- (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
- (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—

- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
- (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
- (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
- (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district—
  - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
  - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
  - i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district(s) is **Ellen Lazzari**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2020**      **Ellen Lazzari**  
DATE      REGISTERING OFFICER

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

(a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **North Side** electoral district and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.

(b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

(a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or

(b) he or she –

- i) is a Caymanian; and
- ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
- iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
- iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;

or

(b) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
- (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
- (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—

- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
- (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
- (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
- (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district—
  - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
  - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
  - i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district is **Patricia Ebanks**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2020**      **Patricia Ebanks**  
DATE      REGISTERING OFFICER

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

(a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **East End** electoral district and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.

(b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

(a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or

(b) he or she –

- i) is a Caymanian; and
- ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
- iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
- iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;

or

(c) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
- (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
- (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—

- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
- (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
- (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
- (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district –
  - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
  - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
  - i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district is **Leisa V. Welcome**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2020**      **Leisa V. Welcome**  
DATE      REGISTERING OFFICER



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# REGISTRATION NOTICE

section 13(2)

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

- (a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **West Bay North, West Bay West, West Bay Central and West Bay South** electoral district(s) and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district(s) on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

- (a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or
  - (b) he or she –
    - i) is a Caymanian; and
    - ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
    - iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
    - iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;
- or
- (c) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
  - (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
  - (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—
- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
  - (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
  - (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
  - (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district –
    - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
    - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
- i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district(s) is **Bethany Powery**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**  
DATE

**Bethany Powery**  
REGISTERING OFFICER

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

- (a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **George Town North, George Town Central, George Town West, George Town South, George Town East, Red Bay and Prospect** electoral district(s) and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district(s) on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

- (a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or
  - (b) he or she –
    - i) is a Caymanian; and
    - ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
    - iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
    - iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;
- or
- (c) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
  - (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
  - (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—
- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
  - (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
  - (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
  - (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district –
    - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
    - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
- i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district(s) is **Kathryn Myles**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**  
DATE

**Kathryn Myles**  
REGISTERING OFFICER

**TAKE NOTICE that –**

- (a) Every person who is entitled to be registered as an elector in the **Bodden Town West, Bodden Town East, Savannah and Newlands** electoral district(s) and who wishes to have his/her name placed on the Register of Electors for the three month period commencing on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020** shall, unless already registered in the current Register of Electors, apply in writing in Form 4 for registration as an elector, which duly completed form must be received by the registering officer for the said electoral district(s) on or before the registration date, namely the **1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (b) Every person not disqualified on any of the grounds set out in the next paragraph of this notice is qualified to be registered as an elector in the said electoral district if he or she –

**Qualifications of Electors**

90(1) Subject to section 91, a person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in one electoral district only, but he or she shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector for elections to the Legislative Assembly unless—

- (a) he or she was, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Constitution, entitled to be registered as an elector; or
  - (b) he or she –
    - i) is a Caymanian; and
    - ii) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
    - iii) is resident in the Cayman Islands at the date of registration; and
    - iv) has been resident in the Cayman Islands for a period or periods amounting to not less than two years out of the four years immediately preceding the date of registration;
- or
- (c) on the day of the issue of a writ ordering an election, he or she is otherwise qualified under paragraph (b) but has not attained the age of eighteen, but he or she will attain that age on or before the polling day at the election.

**Disqualifications of Electors**

91(1) A person shall not be entitled to be registered as an elector in any electoral district who—

- (a) subject to subsection (2) is serving a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) exceeding twelve months imposed on him or her by a court in any country or substituted by competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him or her by such a court, or is under such a sentence of imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended;
  - (b) is a person certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind under any law in force in the Cayman Islands; or
  - (c) is disqualified for registration as an elector by any law in force in the Cayman Islands relating to offences connected with elections.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)—
- (a) where a person is serving two or more sentences of imprisonment that are required to be served consecutively he or she shall, throughout the whole time during which he or she so serves, be regarded as serving a sentence exceeding twelve months if (but not unless) any one of those sentences exceeds that term;
  - (b) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed as an alternative to or in default of the payment of a fine; and
  - (c) no account shall be taken of a sentence of imprisonment imposed by a court outside the Cayman Islands other than a sentence on conviction of an offence constituted by conduct which, if it occurred within the Cayman Islands, would constitute an offence punishable under the law of the Cayman Islands by imprisonment of twelve months or any greater punishment.
  - (d) A revised list containing the names, street address and occupation of all persons qualified to vote in the said district –
    - i) whose names appear in the current Register of Electors; or
    - ii) who have submitted to the registration officer a duly completed and signed application for registration in Form 4 will be available at the Elections Office in George Town, the District Administration Office in Cayman Brac and the Post Office in Little Cayman for a period of twenty-one days beginning on the **23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020**.
- (e) copies of Form 4 may be obtained at the following places –
- i) any post office or sub-post office;
  - ii) the registering office for any electoral district; or
  - iii) the Elections Office
- (f) The registering officer for the electoral district(s) is **Kerry Nixon**.

**20<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**  
DATE

**Kerry Nixon**  
REGISTERING OFFICER

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# A Cascade of Business Closures in Cayman

... Continued story from page A1

The new guidelines come just days after the suspension of cruise ship calls and closing of the Islands' major airports.

With concerns and fears ratcheting up this week, the government today issued a new set of rules, which will ask for bars, barbers, hair and nail salons and spas.

Royal Palms beach bar on the West Bay Road, announced today that the popular gathering spot would be closing its doors for now.

Additionally, Rugs Oriental, a premium carpet provider on the Island has also closed its doors, with hotels such as the Ritz Carlton, the Kimpton and Comfort Suites all announcing closures. The hotels listed, which are all owned by DART, noted that they would be paying staff their base salaries for now.

The Marriott Hotel and the Holiday Inn in Grand Cayman are also closing, as tourists numbers have plummeted and

beaches begin to resemble those of a deserted island paradise.

Several staff members from Holiday Inn indicated they would not be paid. It is currently unclear whether this is the case for Marriott employees.

Amid the announcement that the Owen Roberts International Airport would also be closing for business, both visitor and work permit holders have been clamoring to get back to their home countries.

Logistically, the prospect of some employees not being able to get flights or not being able to afford rent or flights has also caused panic in the expatriate community.

With many permits being cancelled and countries closing their borders the confluence of events is forecasting a 'perfect storm' for some.

In today's CI Government press conference officials noted that repatriation fees collected during the work permit application process would only be remitted in absolutely dire circumstances

and that these would have to be proven by employers and employees.

The officials alluded to the possibility of pensions for foreign workers being disbursed, which they said would be discussed as things progress, as legislation would have to be passed to facilitate such a reality.

Meanwhile, some company's issued statements on Tuesday, 19th March, clarifying misleading reports and rumors.

"Contrary to false rumours being posted on social media, Kirk Freeport has not terminated any employees.

"The only staff who have left have taken a voluntary financial aid package to help them leave the island before the airport closure.

"We continue to keep many stores open and assess the situation each day," noted a statement from the Islands' major jewelry retailer.

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands also issued a statement on Tuesday about their offices now being close to the public:

"In an effort to protect our National Trust team and follow protocols advised by CIG, the National Trust has decided to close its office at Dart Park. In addition, we have closed the Mission House and ceased all of our guided tours at the Blue iguana Conservation Facility, the Mastic Trail, Birding Tour and Paradise Discovered and will reassess the situation at the end of the month."

The organization said it would remain committed to providing content related to the environment, conservation, wildlife and heritage via its social media platforms, newsletter and website.

The Department of Vehicles and Licensing in Grand Cayman is also offering services such as renewals online. However, physical driving exams have been suspended.

Persons are encouraged to check with other service providers in various industries via the internet or by phone to make sure offices are open and to ascertain how to access assistance. 🌐

## Meals on Wheels Prepared for Serving the Most Vulnerable during COVID-19 Pandemic

By now we all know that with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) the most vulnerable are our elderly and those with underlying health issues. For us at Meals on Wheels this brings great concern because many of our clients are both elderly and infirm; this disease puts them at an even greater risk, however what they need more than anything else now is to have proper nutrition, sanitary conditions and safeguarding. Jennifer West, General Manager for Meals on Wheels states, "No population is at higher risk from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) than the vulnerable seniors who depend on Meals on Wheels to deliver meals and services. We are working closely with government agencies and information services to stay on top of our ever changing situation."

Board Chairman, Rob Imparato confirms, "We are striving to continue to provide meals to our seniors but it will get harder and harder due to lack of human resources and financial restraints. We have had to postpone our first fundraiser of the year, the Change for Change Coin Drive and will likely have to do the same with our largest annual event, the "Orange You Glad Gala", currently scheduled for May 9th. During a time when requests for service are likely to increase as seniors are urged to stay at home, not having these events will greatly impact our ability to serve our seniors." He encourages the community to support the seniors in whatever way they can during these difficult times. With many establishments facing their own difficulties, MOW represent-



► Change for Change Coin Drive collection buckets will sit empty for now amidst halted fundraising efforts due to COVID-19



► Delivering meals and smiles to the seniors in our community (MOW Stock Photo)

atives praise the selflessness of Seven Fathoms Cayman Spirits who have provided hand sanitizer for volunteers to carry while they deliver meals. Rum Point Restaurant, who is having to close its doors during this time and donated fresh fruit, vegetables, milk, buns and other perishable items that have been distributed to the 4 district kitchens and will be used in this week's meal distribution.

The MOW service model is about much more than just delivering a meal, it's also about social interaction and checking on people. Ms West confirms that "we need to continue to provide meals without compromising their health. All volunteers who have travelled or been in close contact with anyone who has travelled in the past 15 days have been rotated off the delivery rosters for a period of at least 2 weeks,

the same is true for anyone who has any flu-like symptoms. Extra measures have been implemented and will continue to increase including distance during delivery or wellness checks with the seniors and although supplies are a challenge we have been doing our best to maintain a supply of hand sanitizer, gloves and lysol spray for steering wheels, door handles and car interiors for volunteers." MOW will continue to do whatever is necessary to protect our vulnerable seniors while ensuring that they receive the nutrition and services they need. Ms West went on to explain that a part of the organization's contingency plan is in partnership with Mise en Place and Boxed who are prepared to provide enough frozen meals that we would like to deliver for seniors to have meals for a few days or up to 2 weeks worth of meals. Many of our seniors have special dietary needs and Mise en Place have been a wonderful community partner who caters to all those needs on an individual basis.

One of the major issues that MOW Chairman, Mr Imparato highlights is that "not all of our seniors have access to a kitchen or even a microwave, there are also others who are unable to eat solids. Many are housebound and others live alone leaving them unable to access much needed products." In maintaining day to day operations while also planning for the uncertain short-term and long-term changes ahead, Ms. West and her team are prepared for the worst while hoping for the best. In a measure of preparedness for MOW seniors, the organization is hoping to put together what Ms West calls "MOW COV-KITS", these would essentially be grocery bags that contain items that do not require cooking and other essential products, specifically for the nearly 30 seniors who are without kitchen to heat a meal; other seniors would be provided with goods that would enable them to make additional meals due to the increasing need to isolate while living alone. Meals on Wheels has provided a list of the items would be most needed, donors are asked to keep in mind that many seniors or diabetic or suffer from hypertension so low sugar and low sodium products are requested for the most part.

- Sliced bread
- Bread rolls/bulla/bun
- Peanut butter
- Jam/Jelly
- Crackers (saltiness, water, Ritz, premium)
- Pre-cooked sliced meat (turkey)
- Sliced cheese
- Corned beef
- Vienna sausages
- Tuna (in water)
- Canned beans



► Jennifer West, General Manager for MOW receives a car full of supplies, donated by Rum Point Restaurant

- Canned corn
- Cup of soup
- Corn flakes cereal (or other low sugar)
- Long life milk
- Evaporated milk
- Fruit cups
- Ensure
- Peppermint tea
- Ovaltine
- Soy mix
- Vitamin C
- Oatmeal packets
- Juice boxes (100% juice)
- Microwave ovens (in good condition)
- Blenders (personal size, in good condition)
- Hand sanitizers/Hand Soa
- Depends (Women's M & L and Men's L)

Organisers have announced that from Thursday, March 19th through Tuesday, March 31st a donation drop off box will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 2pm at 1428 Trafalgar Place, West Bay Road on the ground floor. All items will be sanitized prior to packing and distributing to seniors.

We recognize that everyone is facing their own personal economic challenges during this very uncertain time, however, for just \$5 you can ensure that we can continue to serve the seniors we serve and that no one is left hungry or isolated, in line with isolation and social distancing, we encourage donations be made online through Bank of Butterfield direct deposit to Cayman Islands Meals on Wheels or via [www.pledgeasenior.com](http://www.pledgeasenior.com). Should you have questions or require further details please contact Meals on Wheels at 769-1974 or [info@mealsonwheels.ky](mailto:info@mealsonwheels.ky). 🌐

## A note to our clients

### Interest Rates Adjustments

Effective 19 March, 2020, CIBC FirstCaribbean will adjust its KYD and USD Prime Rates from 4.25% to 3.25%.

This adjustment is in response to the decrease in the US Federal Funds rate announced by the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee in the United States on 15 March, 2020.

Should you have any queries speak with your Branch or Relationship Manager.



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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Landfill Fire Update at 8am on Wednesday, 18 March

Landfill Fire Update at 8am on Wednesday, 18 March 2020.

Crews from the Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) and the Department of Environmental Health (DEH) have worked tirelessly to bring a landfill fire to a safe and swift conclusion.

The fire is now fully extinguished. Smoke is no longer emitting from the site and all hotspots have now been identified and doused.

CIFS officers will remain at the scene throughout today and overnight as a precaution, standing ready in case of any early signs of re-ignition. The RCIPS helicopter will also be deployed today to provide aerial images of the site as another source of information for crews.

Commenting on the incident, Chief Fire Officer, Paul Walker QFSM said, "CIFS and DEH have worked meticulously to resolve this challenging and protracted incident. Taking this approach has greatly reduced the chance of re-ignition across the site."



He continued, "I anticipate fire officers will no longer be required on site from tomorrow morning. CIFS will continue to work closely with DEH colleagues as usual and have instructed them to inform us as soon as any potential signs of ignition, however small, are identified."

In closing, Mr Walker said, "I am immensely proud of our crews and partner agencies who have put in great effort to tackle this difficult situation, many of whom working long hours to see the fire to full extinguishment."

## CBC Visitor Extension Process Varied – COVID-19 Measures

The Cayman Islands Government recently announced the decision taken to close our airports for a period of 3 weeks starting from Sunday, 22nd March 2020 through to Sunday, 12th April 2020.

To assist persons who will be departing the islands, the visitor extension process at Customs and Border control has been temporarily varied for visitors and work permit holders.

- Visitors whose permission to remain in the islands will expire between the 22nd March 2020 to 31st March 2020 will not be required to submit a Visitor Extension Application. Visitors will not have to present themselves to a Customs and Border Control Officer and no action will be taken for permission that expires between those dates.

- Departing work permit holders whose permission to continue working



Cayman Islands Customs & Border Control

will expire on or before the 22nd March 2020, are not required to appear before a Customs and Border Control Officer to submit a Visitor Extension Application. These persons can proceed with departing the islands prior to airport closures.

The travelling public is reminded that outbound flights will operate as usual through Sunday 22nd March 2020.

For current information about this initiative and other CBC updates, visit our Facebook page [Cayman Islands Customs and Border Control] and website at <http://cbc.gov.ky>

## All International Mail Services Suspended

Due to precautionary measures being taken to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and the restrictions on international flights, the Cayman Islands Postal Service (CIPS) will suspend all international mail services from Monday, 23rd March 2020 until Monday, 13th April 2020.

The CIPS is currently processing international mail as a matter of urgency, and ask customers to clear their post office boxes of notification slips to ensure that they collect outstanding parcels or registered mail by Friday, 20th March 2020.

It is also suggested that customers delay any further internet orders from overseas vendors until air transportation to the Cayman Islands has returned to the normal level of service. The Cayman Islands Postal Service apologises for the inconvenience caused to customers.

However, the Postal Service reiterates that domestic mail will still move inter-island unless there is a further development in this regard.

Additionally, post offices will remain open to provide other counter services to the public and any changes will be communicated to the public.

## DSC Outlines Changes in Client-Services Due to COVID-19

The Department of Counselling Services (DCS) has made operational changes in response to the confirmation of the COVID-19 in Cayman.

The following amendments to service reflect the department's priority to maintain the health and well-being of clients, minimise risk of exposure to staff and help prevent the spread of the virus:

- Admissions to Caribbean Haven Residential Centre (CHRC) are suspended with immediate effect. Presently there are 20 clients in residence across the male and female treatment programmes.

- Intake services for The Counselling Centre (TCC) and the Family Resource Centre (FRC) will no longer be offered on a walk-in basis. These services will now be available by appointment **only** between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. DSC appreciates that COVID-19 related anxiety in the community requires the availability of its services in some form, so clients can contact TCC (949-8789) or FRC (949-0006).

- Group programmes at TCC and FRC have been suspended until further notice.

- Residents of Cayman Brac will also be offered services over the telephone, as travel to the Brac has been suspended until further notice.

- TCC and FRC staff are working reduced hours in office, on a rotational basis, to minimise the number of persons in office at any given time.

- DCS will periodically be sharing important information on its website [www.dcs.ky](http://www.dcs.ky) and encourages clients and their families to visit the site to help them cope with the challenges they may be experiencing.

The Department fully appreciates that the services it provides are critical in a time like this, when stress levels and anxiety are heightened and some persons are more vulnerable. Therefore it has tried to design an approach that minimises risk and ensures safety while still catering to the mental health needs of clients. As the situation progresses, it will continue to rely on the Public Health authorities to determine further changes to its operations, which will be communicated in a timely manner.

These changes to service provision will remain in effect until **30 April 2020**.



## Cayman Islands Department of Tourism Operational Update

Following recent government led policy announcements in the Cayman Islands related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism (CIDOT) continues to put forward measures to ensure continuity of business without compromising staff safety.

"The mitigation and contingency plans put forward by our government are meant to keep us all safe during this crisis. For the tourism industry, that means a change in how we do business with our valued guests and one another," commented Mrs. Rosa Harris, Director of Tourism. "Noting that circumstances are changing fluidly, our goal is to ensure that our sector's needs in doing business with my team are met in the safest way possible for all parties."

Critical areas of business have been updated as follows:

- **Operating hours** for the department remain Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 5:00PM in both Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac

- \* The main DOT phone number will be manned during this time at 244-1250

- \* Limited staff contingency will be in office each day however phone calls and emails will be responded to in a timely manner

- \* No visitors will be allowed into the DOT offices

- **Hotel Accommodation Taxes** will be collected via a drop box located in the lobby of the Government Administration Building.

- \* Payments must be made by cheque or Cayman Islands local bank

draft; the department will not accept cash payments until further notice

- \* Notification of a payment submission must be sent to the accounts receivable team via email at [AR@caymanislands.ky](mailto:AR@caymanislands.ky) or by calling 345-244-1250

- **Hotel Licensing Inspections** for the accommodations sector are postponed until further notice

- All scheduled **PRIDE** training sessions are to be postponed in short term which a goal of moving to live virtual training sessions. More information in the coming days will be provided.

Additionally, status update surveys will be issued to tourism partners as the CIDOT continues to gauge the economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis in the Cayman Islands. "Our sector is already feeling the effect of this pandemic in ways that are unavoidable as we must prioritize protecting our borders and all who live here," shared Mrs. Harris. "We encourage all of our partners to participate in the official surveys issued by CIDOT for our research team to accurately represent tourism in the ongoing discussions within government."

All persons who have tourism and travel specific questions should visit the CIDOT corporate website, Our Cayman, at [www.ourcayman.ky](http://www.ourcayman.ky). The FAQs section will be regularly updated as the situation continues to evolve.

For official information regarding the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to the coronavirus, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus).

## DCR Suspends Services in Response to Coronavirus

As a part of the Cayman Islands Government's COVID-19 preparedness measures, the Department of Community Rehabilitation (DCR) will be limiting office visits until further notice.

All in-office appointments for this week have been cancelled as will all group programmes.

DCR will be in touch with clients this week to re-schedule appointments and advise how they may con-

tact and report to the department in the coming weeks.

Existing clients and partner agencies needing to contact the department for urgent matters, can do so via the main telephone lines (949-1693 in Grand Cayman and 948-1521 in Cayman Brac).

In addition, the following cell phone numbers can also be used in order to reach the department urgently: 916-4572, 925-9505, 936-0460, 926-2197, or 926-9347.

Commenting on the measures, Director of DCR, Ms Lisa Malice-Hill said, "The safety of our staff and clients remains our number one priority. We have taken the government's advice and will be adapting in order to continue to offer the same high quality services under the new conditions. Consistency is key when it comes to rehabilitation so this will be done with as little disruption to our clients as possible."

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# Tourism Sector Facing Further Closures to Combat COVID-19

In addition to the closure of the Cayman Islands' two international airports on Sunday, 22 March 2020 at 11:59PM, further business closures in the hospitality sector have been announced to continue the fight against coronavirus spreading throughout the islands.

Focusing on the airport closures, visitors are encouraged to take the opportunity to return home, the Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister of Tourism, Mr Moses Kirkconnell shared: "Throughout our accommodation sector we have many visitors who arrived this week and were required to go into isolation. In order to ensure that they can leave the Cayman Islands before the full airport closure on Sunday, these travellers should act now—contact your airline provider before further

reduction in flights can impede your return. While we are glad to have been your Caribbean destination of choice, we also know that there is no place like home and being near family and friends during times of crisis." Those persons who have arrived in the Cayman Islands this week will be required to remain in isolation period of 14 days and unable to leave until the border restrictions have been lifted.

Additional government restrictions on public life will be implemented for an initial period of two weeks, starting this Sunday which will require restaurants to solely provide take-out and delivery services. In relation to bars, spas, salons, gyms and public swimming pools, these establishments will also be required to close for a period of two weeks.

"We believe as a government that this tactic will further help the Cayman Islands to minimize the spread of COVID-19," shared Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister of Tourism Moses Kirkconnell. "While these measures will impact our daily life, it is right thing to do for all of us until this threat passes."

The Minister reiterated that the restrictions on public gatherings, the closures of our airports, and other measures taken throughout the country must be adhered to, especially the departure of our visitors currently on island. "All official information is being shared throughout the community via various government channels, and we must ensure that all persons are taking it seriously."

For more official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to



► Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister of Tourism, Mr Moses Kirkconnell

the coronavirus, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus).

## CUC coronavirus information update

CUC recognizes that many of our customers may experience financial hardships over the next few months as we deal with restrictive measures implemented to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus in our community. In anticipation of the payment difficulties that may affect our customers, the Company has proactively taken steps to develop a plan to minimize the impact to customers.

As stated earlier, we will be immediately discontinuing disconnections for the remainder of March 2020, and providing the options below to customers on a case-by-case basis. However, not all customers will qualify. For example, an individual whose electricity account is in the landlord's name will not qualify for these options as the debt will be the landlord's responsibility. In such instances, only the landlord may authorize such an action and make any arrangements for repayment with their tenants.

We also want to stress that the 3-month plan is for extenuating circumstances and was created especially for employees of industries whose operations have essentially halted.

We are asking customers to assist by managing their consumption. We understand this may be challenging with everyone at home. We therefore encourage customers to utilize our monitoring tools available via our website at [www.cuc-cayman.com](http://www.cuc-cayman.com).

Please note the following:

1. Customers will be allowed a fourth payment extension on their account (CUC's current policy allows customers a maximum of three (3) within a 12 month period).

2. Qualifying customers with some form of proof of unemployment or reduced earnings from employers, will be allowed to delay payments on their electricity account for a maximum of three (3) months, or a maximum of \$900.00 (at \$300.00 per month). Amounts exceeding \$300.00 per month must be paid. Upon resumption of normal processes, these customers will then be offered extended payment plans of up to six months, to commence at the end of the three-month extension period, to ease the burden of repayment.

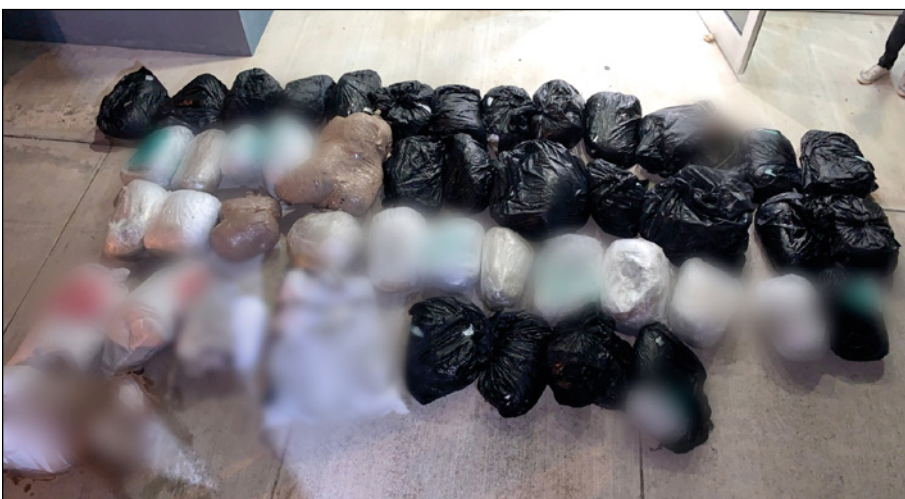
CUC is here to support the Grand Cayman community. Our contact center



team members are standing by and can be reached by phone at 949-5200 and via email at [service@cuc.ky](mailto:service@cuc.ky) to discuss what options are appropriate for each customer.

If there are delays in receiving a response, we are asking our customers to be patient as we are experiencing higher than usual call and email volumes at this time.

### POLICE NEWS



## 673lbs of Ganja Recovered During Drug Interdiction

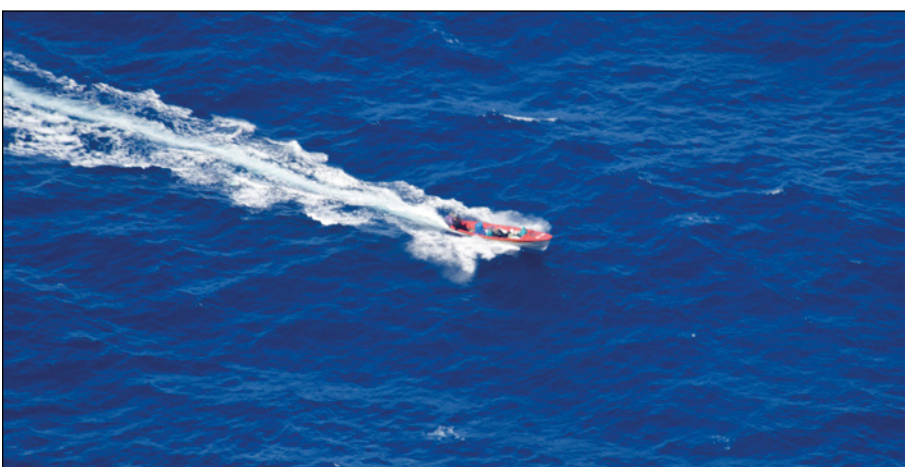
On Thursday, 12 March, officers from the RCIPS Air Operations Unit and the Joint Marine Unit, were conducting a joint pro-active patrol when the AOU observed a Jamaican style canoe with three persons onboard, about 30-40 miles from Grand Cayman. On sighting the police helicopter the canoe appeared to make speed and the persons aboard began throwing packages from the vessel into the sea. The AOU directed the JMU vessel MV Mark Luke to the location, which then intercepted the canoe. The JMU officers boarded the vessel and detained the three occupants on suspicion of being concerned in the im-

portation of ganja into the Cayman Islands.

Officers recovered forty-six packages from the sea nearby, which were later found to contain approximately 673lbs of ganja. The canoe was transported back to Grand Cayman, and its occupants, three Jamaican males aged 51, 49 and 39, were taken into custody.

The three men have all now been charged with "Possession of Ganja knowing or having reasonable grounds to suspect that the drug is intended to be Imported into the Cayman Islands."

They appeared in court on Monday, 16 March, and were remanded into custody to appear again on 24 March.



## A Day of Action by the RCIPS

On Tuesday, 25 February, police carried out a co-ordinated "Day of Action" operation across Grand Cayman. The purpose of this operation was to maintain public confidence, increase visibility of officers, target illegal activities and areas frequented by anti-social behaviour, and prosecute law breakers. In addition, plans were put in place to execute warrants and conduct search warrants, as well as to have community outreach and engagement.

"It was a challenge to organize this event, which required strategically deploying resources, including officers from specialist units who do not usually work on the front lines. But in the end, the outcome was very rewarding and I was pleased with the level of dedication shown by all the officers who took part in the operation," says Inspector Roje Williams, who is currently in charge of Major Events Planning.

Throughout the 24-hour period during which the operation was carried out, eighty (80) traffic tickets were issued, with a focus on speeding, illegal tint and driving while using a mobile phone. Over thirty (30) persons were arrested, the majority of whom were on warrant. However, several wanted persons were also arrested in relation to on-going investigations, including robbery and burglary investigations. Officers in Cayman Brac and Little Cayman also conducted additional patrols and vehicle. Fourteen (14) traffic tickets were issued in Cayman Brac and a further four (4) in Little Cayman on the day of the operation.

"It was important for us as Community Officers to be involved this operation. Our goal is to keep the public and youth engaged, involved and informed about



the things that are happening in their community," says Inspector Courtney Myles, in charge of Community Policing. "We will continue to do our part in keeping the Cayman Islands safe."

Officers in Grand Cayman implemented fourteen (14) vehicle checkpoints and executed five (5) search warrants during the operation. Community Police officers also visited several pre-schools to provide students with road safety tips and general information on the roles of police officers.

"I am pleased with the results that were attained in this operation. It is important that the service carries out spontaneous operations such as this to combat crime in the Cayman Islands. We also want to reassure the public that we are taking action on the issues they have raised through various avenues such as community meetings, website tips or simply through conversations with our officers," says Deputy Commissioner Ennis, who was head of the operation. "As a service, we will continue to do our part in ensuring the lawfulness and safety of the Cayman Islands. We will continue to carry out our services to the people with efficiency, effectiveness and professionalism. We would like to thank the public for their continued support and cooperation in these trying times."



# Cuba is saviour to virus affected British ship

A British cruise ship that was turned away from several Caribbean ports over a period of weeks after passengers fell ill with novel coronavirus, docked in Cuba on Tuesday after the island agreed to help transfer those aboard to planes bound for the United Kingdom.

The Cuban government said it had decided to allow the Braemar to dock in the port of Mariel, about 35 miles west of the capital, Havana, "due to the urgency of the situation and the risk to the lives of sick people."

Fred Olsen Cruises said that the ship had 22 passengers and 21 crew members in isolation after displaying flu-like symptoms and five aboard who tested positive for the new coronavirus.

The ship with more than 1,000 people aboard was turned away from ports in

Curacao, the Bahamas, Dominican Republic, St Maarten and Barbados in recent weeks, leading to an intense search for a way to get its mostly British passengers and its crew home.

Meanwhile, two cruise ships were denied permission to return to their home port in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Both the Royal Caribbean Cruises' Freedom of the Seas and the Carnival Fascination instead sailed to Miami, where passengers disembarked.

The Carnival Cruise Line said the government of Puerto Rico even denied a request to debark Puerto Rican residents "despite the fact that no one has any influenza-like illness."

"We have plenty of food, fuel, water and supplies and a full schedule of entertainment and activities," Carnival Cruise Line said in an emailed statement. 🌐



► The Braemar was finally allowed to dock in Cuba

# COVID-19: The Phantom War

By Michael L. Jarvis, London UK

Life imitates art they say. If that's so we are witnessing that reality in the most worrying of circumstances.

In a situation reminiscent of the movie Predator, the world is caught up in an all-out war against an unseen enemy.

COVID-19 is stalking every country in a chilling cat and mouse, man versus virus game...but this is not fantasy, this is real life.

And there can only be one winner. Mankind must win.

This might not be the proverbial extinction-level scenario but at the moment that description comes close.

Amidst the understandable gloom, there are valiant efforts underway to avert the portending doom that this virus threatens.

Already governments across the globe have been forced into action and already there are some very encouraging signs.

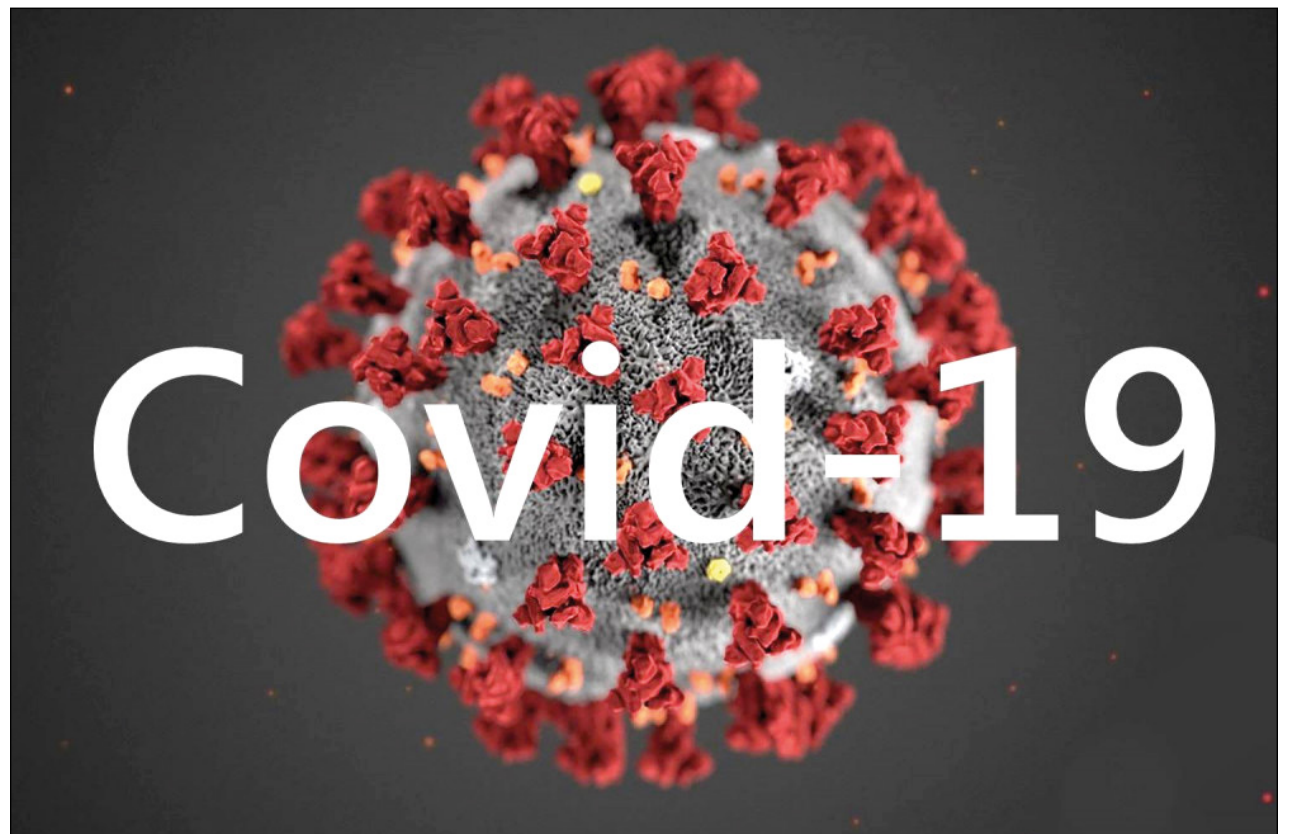
The urgency of the crisis of the still-evolving disease has seen the best scientific minds spring into action to find a vaccine.

Creative political solutions are emerging, some quicker and more creative than others, but across the world governments are taking action.

Given the scale of the crisis and the threat of it worsening, it is accepted that some measures will be drastic, even draconian.

That's understandable and to a degree acceptable. This, after all, is the crisis of a generation.

Some countries by virtue of their political ideology have taken quite extreme measures.



But what's really instructive is the similarity of some of the measures across the ideological spectrum given the nature of the challenge.

COVID-19 does not recognise borders or ideologies. Well, it's a virus.

However, if that China and Italy can find it necessary to completely shut down entire cities to contain and suppress the spread of this virus speaks volumes to

... Continued story on page A12

## LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT

Feeling afraid, trapped or silenced through physical, financial or emotional abuse is control...not love.

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre offers services to help victims of domestic violence.

24 Hour Crisis Line - 943-2422

24/7 Safe Shelter - safe house for women and their children

Estella's Place - walk-in centre for all victims of domestic abuse

Aftercare Programme - for victims after leaving the shelter

If you are a victim of domestic violence, contact us now and find out how we can help.



CICC.ky  
949 0366  
info@cicc.ky






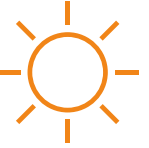
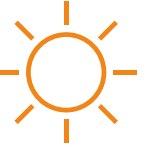








WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

| Friday  | Saturday  | Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 81° / 78°   | 80° / 77°   | 80° / 78°   | 81° / 79°   | 80° / 77°   | 78° / 77°   | 78° / 77°   |
| Mostly sunny and breezy   | Mostly sunny, breezy and nice   | Mostly sunny  | Mostly sunny and pleasant   | Sunshine and pleasant   | Sunshine  | Plenty of sunshine  |

# Prospect Claims Girls Inter-Primary Basketball Title

By Flynn Bush

For the time being, we in the Cayman Islands do not have any opportunity to experience sports; either as a participant or as a spectator. The corona virus pandemic has caused all such events to be cancelled. However, just a short time because that decision was taken by the government, there was an important event of that nature.

On March 4th, at the JGHS gymnasium, teams from eleven different primary schools on island competed on the basketball court. At stake was the Girls Inter-Primary crown. This was an opportunity for the athletes to put the skills that they had garnered and honed during the regular season to use while

playing in an all-day tournament. There was much excitement on hand.

The tournament was set up with the teams competing head-to-head in a format that sent the game winners on forward in the main bracket, while the losers of initial games were diverted to a consolation bracket. From the opening whistle of the first game, the action was intense. Then, the main contenders started to show their prowess. There was Cayman Prep "A", Prospect, First Baptist, Savannah and St. Ignatius that initially showed signs of being contenders.

As the teams went through the rounds, the situation became more and more clear. In the winners' bracket, the scene was being set for a showdown between First Baptist and Savannah in

the semifinal round. That game proved to be epic with the score being tied after regulation and again after overtime. Then, the play continued with a sudden-death period which meant that the first team to score a basket would win. Defense reigned supreme at this time as numerous chances by each team were thwarted thus prolonging the game by an additional 15 minutes. In the end, it came down to a single point, a made free throw that sent First Baptist to the final.

Meanwhile, in the consolation bracket, Red Bay had booked a spot in the third place game (consolation final). Savannah then was to face them. That game proved to be a nail-biter as well as both teams fought fiercely. At the final whistle, it was Red Bay that had won.

Back in the main bracket, First Baptist faced Prospect in the final. These were two teams that throughout the day had faced tough challenges and had come through them all the more ready. This was to be an entertaining final, to say the least. The lead changed several times and, although it was a low scoring game, every second was exciting. As the metaphorical dust settled, team from Prospect Primary School had topped the contest. PPS was declared the 2020 Girls Inter-Primary Basketball Champions.

When the corona virus scare is over and life resumes, our young athletes will get the chance to display their skills and talents. Until then, let us all pray for God to bring our country through this crisis safely. 🙏



## MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION



# THE LOST - A TRUE URGENCY - LUKE 15:8

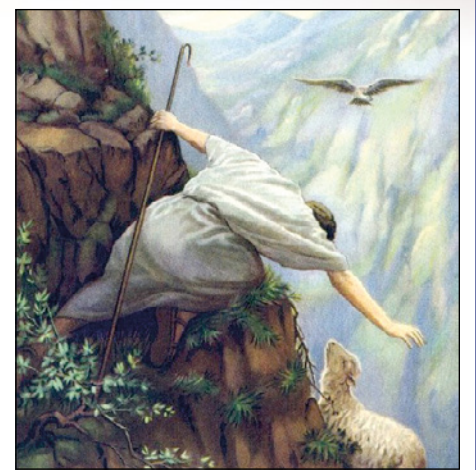
Have you ever misplaced a large amount of money? That sense of panic is unimaginable. The ensuing search for it becomes priority. You would do everything necessary to recover it. Like the woman in this account.

She searched endlessly until she found the lost coin. It was of tremen-

dous value to her. What relief! Jesus focus here was not on the money but the soul of the woman. He says, "I came to seek and to save that which is lost." Just like the shepherd who has 100 sheep and one falls into a hole. He leaves the 99 and goes in diligent search until it is found. We

are all like this sheep. "Lost and dead in trespasses and sin." But there's hope.

As Christians, do we have this same urgency for our lost families, friends, relatives and co-workers? Jesus expects us to everything to get them **SAVED**. 🙏



## OBITUARIES

The Family of the Late **Mavis Vendlin Ebanks "Gwendolyn"** regret to announce her passing on Wednesday, 4 March, 2020.

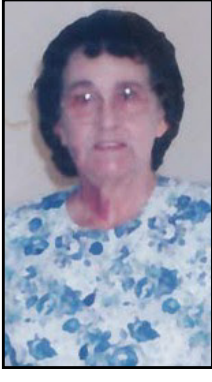


A Service of Thanksgiving will be at the graveside at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, 21 March, 2020 at Boatwain Bay Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservices.com](http://boddenfuneralservices.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page.




The Family of the Late **Geruda Adberia Jackson also known a "Gugu"** regret to announce her passing on Friday, 6 March 2020.



A Grave Side Service of Thanksgiving will be held at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, 21 March 2020 at West Bay Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at [www.boddenfuneralservices.com](http://www.boddenfuneralservices.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page.



**Churchill's** Funeral Home


We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Louis Ebanks, who passed away on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at [churchillsfuneralhome.com](http://churchillsfuneralhome.com)

**Churchill's** Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Michael A. McField AKA "Mikey", who passed away on Wednesday, March 04, 2020. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Lion Center, Olympic Way, George Town, Grand Cayman On Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Viewing: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Interment at: Prospect Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at [churchillsfuneralhome.com](http://churchillsfuneralhome.com)



# HSA halts General Practice appointments at George Town Clinic

The Health Services Authority is cancelling all non-essential appointments for George Town General Practice Clinic effective immediately to protect our patients and minimize potential transmission of COVID-19. All patients with appointments will be contacted to reschedule.

The Acute Care walk-in clinic in the General Practice Building will remain open at this time, Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm and has extended its hours on Saturday 8:30am - 4pm.

“Our George Town General Practice clinic is always busy and therefore has many people within a close proximity to each other,” said HSA CEO Lizzette Yearwood. “Cancelling these appointments will help us reduce the number of patients in the clinic at any given time, therefore lessening the chances of spreading any virus.”

“Many of our patients at the district clinics and those we treat at home are the elderly and vulnerable population, therefore HSA will continue these services to ensure those persons are still receiving care. Patients in the districts are strongly advised to remain at home



if they do not need urgent medical attention.”

Healthcare services at the District Health Centres and assignments to satellite services including: H.M.P Fairbanks, H.M.P Northward Prison, retirement homes and home visits, will remain at this time.

Patients who require chronic medications refills are advised to call 949-8600. At this time, the pharmacy can accommodate dispensing 1 month of medication.

Anyone experiencing flu symptoms should first call the Flu Hotline at 1-800-534-8600 or 947-3077 and a healthcare professional will conduct an initial triage over the phone. If a caller requires further medical attention, the hotline will refer them to the Flu Clinic located at the Cayman Islands Hospital. An email is also available for questions regarding the flu - flu@hsa.ky

# Caribbean Utilities Co Ltd Office Closure Notification

Dear Valued Customer,  
Please be advised that beginning March 18th, 2020, our Caribbean Plaza office and the main customer service center on North Sound Road will be closed to the public.

Our contact center team can be reached by email at [service@cuc.ky](mailto:service@cuc.ky) and by phone at 949-5200. If you are unable to access a scanner, packages can be deposited via our drop box at the CUC North Sound Road location. Please call or email us to notify us of the delivery.

With the shift to online or telephone communications, we ask for your patience in the event that you encounter delays due to high demand. We are working diligently to ensure that all of our customers continue to receive excellent customer service regardless of the change in the delivery methods.

The CUC team recognizes that many of our customers may experience financial hardships over the next few months as we deal with restrictive measures implemented to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus in our community. Please note that in anticipation of the payment difficulties that may affect some of our customers, CUC has proactively taken steps to develop a plan to minimize the potential impact. We will be providing options to our clientele on a case-by-case basis.



One of the options available to qualifying customers is credit terms for a maximum of 90 days. If you have concerns in relation to making payments, whether logistically or financially, please contact our customer service team immediately and they will be happy to discuss the various options the Company has implemented for this scenario.

Disconnections have been halted for the remainder of March. To avoid having your service disconnected thereafter, please ensure that you contact a Customer Service representative to make arrangements for overdue payments.

We continue to focus on the health and safety of our employees and customers and on our efforts to ensure the continuity of electricity service to Grand Cayman.

Stay safe,  
Your CUC Customer Service Team

# Island Heritage Insurance Office Closure

In light of the global outbreak of COVID-19 and in support of the Cayman Islands government's efforts to limit the transmission of the virus, Island Heritage Insurance Company, Ltd. (“Island Heritage” or “the Company”) is closing its office to walk-in customers from Wednesday, 18 March until further notice. Customers can continue to reach Island Heritage Insurance online at [islandheritageinsurance.com](http://islandheritageinsurance.com) and via email at [customercare@islandheritage.com.ky](mailto:customercare@islandheritage.com.ky) or [claims@islandheritage.com.ky](mailto:claims@islandheritage.com.ky) for general claims.

Ian Campbell, Director & Executive Vice President, P&C of Island Heritage Insurance, states: “As part of our commitment to our customers we are doing everything we can to limit the transmission of this virus. We are adjusting the way we operate to ensure the safety of our staff and customers, but we will



remain open for business online and via email. Our teams are equipped and ready to operate remotely. This is a time for all of us to work together as a community, to do everything we can to contain the spread of COVID-19.”



# DCI's Counter will Close Earlier to the Public

The Department of Commerce and Investment (DCI) wishes to advise the public of the following:

- Counter at the Government Administration Building will be closed one hour earlier to the public each day, starting Wednesday, March 18, 3:00 p.m.;
- The Trade and Business Licensing Board meeting scheduled for today, March 17 is cancelled and has been tentatively rescheduled for Tuesday, March 31, 2020; and
- DCI is unable to guarantee its usual express services for trade and business licence applications.

Members of the public are reminded to use the government online platforms, [www.eservices.gov.ky](http://www.eservices.gov.ky) or [www.dci.gov.ky](http://www.dci.gov.ky) to apply for or renew trade or business licences. They can also email [info@dci.gov.ky](mailto:info@dci.gov.ky) for trade and business and other licensing information.

# Lands & Survey Reduce Hours for Public Facing Services and Encourages Customers to Call or Email

The Lands and Survey Department has implemented proactive steps for business transactions to protect employees, customers and the broader community from possible transmission of the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

The following measures and procedures will go into effect as of Monday, 16 March 2020:

1. All public counter services will offer reduced hours and will be open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm daily.
2. The duration and proximity of physical interactions with customers will be reduced by limiting physical meetings.
3. Working hours for staff have been reduced to avoid congregation of staff and to provide for wider physical spacing for work stations.
4. All non-critical services have been deferred with a focus on essential business operations.
5. Customers are also asked to adhere to the following when conducting business:
  - a. Call 345 244 3420 or email [landsurv.info@gov.ky](mailto:landsurv.info@gov.ky) if you have questions or queries that do not require physical interaction.

b. When coughing or sneezing do so in a tissue. The tissue should then be immediately disposed in a bin.

c. If you do visit Lands and Survey offices, practice social distancing, that means you should maintain a distance of 3 feet between you and the next customer or person in line.

d. Engage via video-conferencing or teleconference to limit physical meetings.

e. Continue to abide by the guidelines from the local and international health authorities, by washing your hands with soap consistently throughout the day, or where washing your hands is not possible to use an alcohol-based sanitizer, and avoid touching your face, particularly your eyes, nose and mouth.

“We understand that we provide a critical service to the business community and also individual wealth therefore we have done our best to design a multidimensional approach to minimize risk and ensure safety while still catering to our customers. As challenges further develop, we will continue to rely on the local authorities to shape changes to our operations if the need arises. We want to reassure you that the health



and wellness of our employees, customers and communities will always be our top priority and we thank you for your continued support and co-operation as we seek to protect both our employees and customers,” said Lands and Survey Director, Jon Hall.

These changes will remain in effect until **30 April 2020**. Lands and Survey will continue to evaluate the situation and provide further updates to the public as they arise. Monitor and visit [www.gov.ky](http://www.gov.ky) for the latest official updates.

# COVID-19: The Phantom War

... Continued story from page A9

the gravity of the situation and the common approach necessary to combat it.

It's also notable that similar action is being taken across other societies though more gradual but with the possibility that if the virus takes hold, tougher action might become necessary.

In the main, the respective citizenry accepts that these inconveniences are mild and tolerable compared to the raging storm of social and economic disruption that COVID-19 portends.

It's welcome and reassuring to see governments balancing restrictions on society with provisions to support the business sector.

All of these actions form part of the arsenal of measures being put in place to prop up the pillars of the economy and gird the society to withstand the onslaught of COVID-19.

From Cayman, to London, US, EU, Caribbean and others, countries are in rapid-response mode to suppress the spread of the virus while experts in labs worldwide work fervently to develop a virus.

There is hope.

At the same time though, one also hopes that governments will start working together as this 'war' requires an allied force of nations to combat and suppress this common global enemy.

Too much is at stake.

Victory over this virus lies in collaboration.





# Coronavirus Information and Advice for Vulnerable People

## Prevention Tips

- frequently **cleanse hands** with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser
- **cough or sneeze** in a tissue and bin it
- **if a tissue is not available** cough/sneeze into your elbow not your hands
- **avoid close contact** with people suffering from fever or cough
- **avoid travel** if you have a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms
- **avoid wearing a surgical mask** unless advised by a medical professional

## Extra Steps You Can Take To Avoid Covid-19

If you have a **chronic illness** (e.g. respiratory disease, diabetes, heart disease, COPD, hypertension or cancer), are **elderly** (over 60) or have a **compromised immune system**, you can further protect yourself with the below extra precautionary steps in addition to the prevention tips above.



**1**

**limit guest visits** at home to a few family and friends or your district community officer during an outbreak



**2**

**avoid guests who show signs of flu-like symptoms**



**3**

**remain 3 – 6 feet away** unless being checked by your healthcare provider

Most importantly, remember **you are supported.**

Call the H.S.A. helpline on **1-800-534-8600** or **947-3077** if you have any questions.

For the latest updates and information, please visit [HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus](https://HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus) or [gov.ky/coronavirus](https://gov.ky/coronavirus)



DATED: 12 MARCH 2020

## Coronavirus – Self-Isolating

### Do

- Stay at home
- Try not to be in the same room as other people at the same time
- Only allow people who live with you to stay
- Stay in a well-ventilated room
- Ideally, keep two weeks of food, drink, medication and cleaning supplies at home
- Ask friends, family members or delivery services to carry out errands for you such as getting groceries, medicines or other shopping
- Make sure you tell delivery drivers to leave items outside for collection
- Clean toilets and bathrooms regularly
- Think about a bathroom rota if a separate bathroom is not available, with the isolated person using the facilities last, before thoroughly cleaning the bathroom themselves
- Use separate sheets and towels from anyone else in the household and launder at the hottest temperature possible for the material
- Wash crockery and utensils thoroughly with soap and water. Dishwashers may be used to clean crockery and cutlery
- Stay away from your pets — if unavoidable, wash your hands before and after contact

### Do Not

- Invite visitors to your home or allow visitors to enter
- Go to work, school or public areas
- Use public transport or taxis
- Do not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, bedding or other items with other people in your home

### Self-Isolation and Mental Health

Stay in touch with friends and relatives on the phone or by social media. You may find it helpful to talk to them.

Most importantly, remember you are supported.

For the latest updates and information, please visit [HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus](https://HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus) or [gov.ky/coronavirus](https://gov.ky/coronavirus).



DATED: 13 MARCH 2020



# Ways to support the hospitality & tourism industry during coronavirus pandemic

The COVID-19 crisis has the global hospitality and tourism industries – some of the most consequential industries in the world– in uncharted territory. Nations have closed their borders. Airlines face bankruptcy. Cruises are not sailing. And, dependent businesses are reeling leaving countless hospitality and tourism employees, with limited to no paycheck for the foreseeable future.

As a community, while adjusting to and embracing the new social distancing standard, to get through the weeks and months ahead, we must ensure the continued flow of vital goods and services; support workers in the suddenly overburdened health care, food supply and delivery sectors; and keep afloat employees and small businesses in countless industries crippled by this crisis however we can.

Here are some ways to support our community, and our hospitality and tourism industry:

**Order carryout, drive-through or curbside pickup.** While new bans of in-person dining have been announced, food service is allowed to continue via carryout, drive-through, delivery or curbside pickup. This means that coffee shops, restaurants and some store fronts have modified menus and customer interaction procedures to accommodate this new business model so you can place an order, and collect your meal, while never leaving your car. Support your favorite restaurants or coffee shops as often as possible.

**Order delivery.** Many local restaurants offer their own delivery services or subscribe to local delivery services such as Island Grub or Fine Dine In. Look for special offers of free or discounted delivery during this time. Some delivery ser-

vices are even offering special discounts and loyalty programs. Ordering delivery helps support local businesses as well as community members who earn a living through providing delivery services.

**Set-up a “virtual tip jar”.** As sort of an emergency relief fund for those facing economic hardships, start a virtual tip jar where people eating and drinking at home are encouraged to think of their favorite local bartenders, servers or entertainers, and drop them a virtual tip via Venmo, PayPal or in the form of a gift card. There are easy to use online platforms available to facilitate this.

**Buy gift cards.** Even if you can’t stay and eat, you can still throw dollars to local restaurants by purchasing gift cards for later use. This helps the businesses maintain cash flow during a needed time. Depending on the restaurant, you can order these online and can pick them up or have them mailed directly to you.

**Establish a dining or attraction bond initiative.** A dining or attraction bond works like a savings bond, where you can purchase a ‘bond’ at a value rate to be redeemed for face value (for example, a \$100 bond for \$75) at a future date. For restaurants or attractions, many of whom are small businesses and are in serious risk of shutting their doors permanently due to this crisis, the bonds can bring in much needed revenue. And for us, the community, it’s a chance to show love and support, ensuring the future of some of our favorite restaurants or attractions, not to mention the many people who may be forced out of work.

**Stock up.** If businesses offer non-perishable or freezable items, support them and stock your pantry at the same time. These items could include bread or pastries, meats and eggs from local farmers

and butchers, packs of beer, bottles of wine or spirits, bags of coffee and more.

**Book a staycation.** Easter break is just about upon us, and if you have yet to make any vacation plans or if you canceled your travels, you could still get that same vacation feel with a staycation, mindful of social distancing, of course. And, most definitely support watersports companies, when possible.

**Have a virtual experience.** Experience our amazing destination from the comfort of your own sofa. Take a virtual tour of a local museum or attend an online art class. A virtual wine tasting with local wine tasting venues could be fun.

**Adopt an elderly neighbor.** Use an online food delivery service and have a meal delivered to someone in need or an elderly neighbor. Support a local business, and the community at the same time.

**Donate time, money or goods to food programs.** Food insecurity is one impact of schools and businesses closing for the pandemic. The Cayman Food Bank supports various food pantries so that food is available to those who will face hardships in the upcoming months. Food and beverage venues with food overages due to closings can donate unused food and supplies to support the pantries- or as a community, food and monetary donation are always appreciated. Supporting Meals on Wheels, a local program designed to feed the elderly or shut-in can also use assistance to ensure our elderly receive healthy immune building meals.

**Book a family photo shoot.** There are so many people and businesses directly and indirectly impacted by the tourism industry. Think of those who support the industry through the services they provide and utilize their services in creative ways if you can.

**Tip well.** If you order carryout or delivery and have the ability to tip extra, please do. These shutdowns will impact hourly wage-earners particularly hard. So, leave a good tip.

**Check-in.** If you know someone who works in the hospitality and tourism industry or in a business affected by the crisis, check-in on them. They are so many people who depend on tourism in our community and they can use our support.

It’s clear that our industry’s economic reality will now change somewhat dras-



► Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International

tically to accommodate the more pressing public health reality, but maybe this crisis invites an opportunity for creativity in the way we as an industry do business moving forward. Our hospitality and tourism industry is resilient and we will recover to be better than ever.

On a personal note, while I do not profess to be an expert in the uncharted territory our industry faces, I am an industry veteran available to donate my time and resources to serve as a consultant or as additional support for any hospitality and tourism related business who needs assistance with local online marketing, social media campaigns, drafting new policies and procedures for take-out or delivery services, training for a new service style, and setting up new programs including some mentioned in this article. Let me know how I may assist. We’re in this together.

Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International, a Caymanian-owned hospitality and tourism consulting and advisory firm. She’s an industry veteran and holds a master’s certificate in Hospitality Management from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY and has also earned continuing education certifications in Hotel Real Estate and Asset Management, Digital Marketing, and Revenue Management from Cornell University. Visit Caymera at [www.caymeragroup.com](http://www.caymeragroup.com) or email [info@caymeragroup.com](mailto:info@caymeragroup.com) for more information.



## The COVID-19 Outbreak: Implications for Tourism-Dependent Caribbean Countries

By Henry Mooney and Maria Alejandra Zegarra

The COVID-19 outbreak could have considerable implications for Caribbean citizens and their economies.

The magnitude of this impact will depend crucially on the spread of the virus, the duration of the outbreak, and measures countries in the region and elsewhere undertake to insulate themselves. It will also have much to do with country economic structures — particularly tourism dependence.

This post focuses on tourism as a key shock transmission channel, and considers IDB regional member countries’ — i.e., The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago (referred to from here on as the “CCB” countries) — dependence on this sector, while putting forward illustrative scenarios for ranges of possible shocks to output over various horizons.

While for illustration purposes only, our scenarios highlight that because of the significance of the sector for several of our countries, as well as large increases in tourism arrivals during the

peak period late in the year, a prolonged crisis could have a more amplified impact on economic activity via the tourism channel than one that is contained relatively quickly.

### Transmission Channels

The impact for individual economies will differ depending on the structure of the economy (e.g., tourism dependence vs. commodity exporter), and transmission channels through which the shock propagates. These can be broken into two broad categories — (i) domestic outbreak and prevention measures, and (ii) external price and demand shocks.

Domestic Outbreak and Prevention Measures: While there have been relatively few reported cases in our six countries (at the time of this posting), a significant outbreak is a material risk. As for any country, both the direct impact of cases and preventative measures will have implications for domestic activity and demand. Lost productivity from workers falling ill or being asked to stay home would have implications for output. Similarly, costs associated with emergency medical services, as well

as enhanced security and public safety measures would place additional financial and other burdens on governments.

External Price and Demand Shocks: Key direct external channels include physical and financial linkages with the rest of the world, particularly important sectors including tourism, commodities trade, and cross border financial flows.

### Country-Specific Vulnerabilities

For the six countries that are members of the IDB’s Caribbean Department, key external channels will include: (i) tourism, (ii) commodity prices, and (iii) cross border financial flows. For this post, we focus on the economic significance of tourism, and potential impact scenarios related to the sector — likely the most significant external channel for at least 3 of our 6 countries.

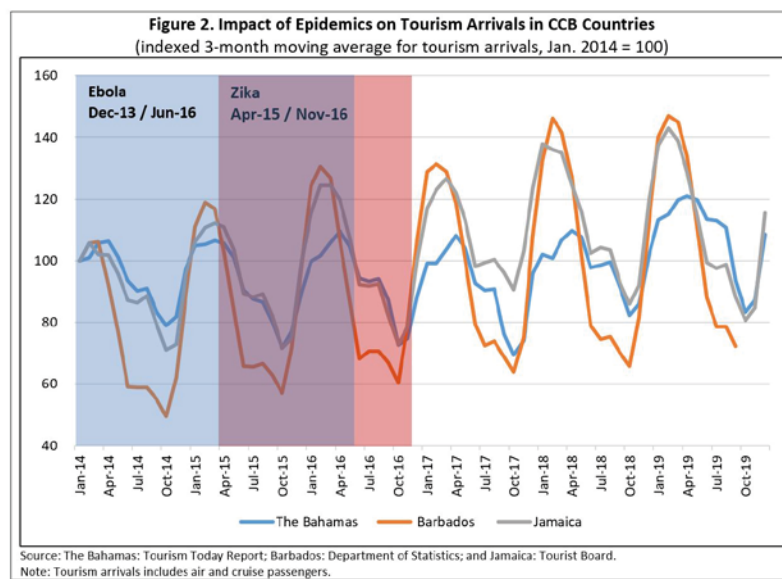
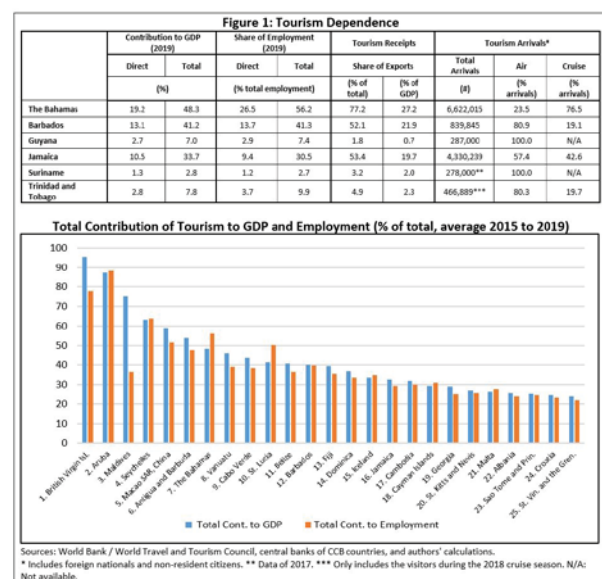
Tourism Dependence: Some CCB economies are among the most tourism-dependent in the world. Tourism accounts for between 34 and 48 per cent of total output (GDP) in The Bahamas, Barbados, and Jamaica, and similarly large shares of overall employment, with all three



countries ranking in the top 20 globally on both measures (Figure 1). Related receipts are also equal to over half of total exports for these three countries. Cruise ship tourism — already heavily impacted by the crisis — also represents a very large proportion of this sector for both The Bahamas and Jamaica.

Historical Precedents: This outbreak may be without precedent, particularly for the Caribbean region. While there have been epidemics in recent years — e.g., Ebola (2013-2016) and Zika (2015-2016) — these do not appear to have had major implications for travel and tourism to the region (Figure 2). While Zika cases were reported in the Caribbean, and health warnings were issued, broad travel advisories and restrictions such as the ones currently being enacted are without precedent. During the Global Financial Crisis, Caribbean tourism did suffer an important drop in arrivals owing largely to economic factors. Should the crisis lead to a severe economic shock to advanced economies, this may also trigger a similarly important shift in travel preferences.

Crisis Duration and Seasonality: Seasonal fluctuations in tourist arrivals to the region are significant — with increases of much as 200 per cent between high seasons (generally October to April) and the lower volume period (Figure 2). In this context, should the crisis remain acute past September





# Two COVID-19 Cases in Barbados; Public Gatherings Curtailed as Country Enters Stage 1 of Preparedness Plan

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has reached Barbados.

Minister of Health and Wellness Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic announced today that two people who came in from the United States have the virus. One is a 48-year-old male visitor who arrived on March 13 and the other, a 39-year-old Barbadian female who recently returned home.

He said the two had been experiencing symptoms of a viral infection and were sent for evaluation, and authorities were informed this morning that they both tested positive for COVID-19 which was first detected in China last November.

"Both patients are being managed for COVID-19 and have been placed in isolation, where they will remain until they recover," Minister Bostic said.

In the meantime, the Ministry has initiated the process of contact tracing to identify every individual who came in close contact with these patients. They will all be placed in quarantine for 14 days.

"Our priority now as a Ministry is to ensure that COVID-19 is contained and to do all in our power to prevent in-country transmission," Bostic said.

"As Minister of Health and Wellness in Barbados, I am committed to doing all in my power to protect the health and ensure the safety of every person resident here. I therefore want to assure the public that there is no need for panic. This is the time for vigilance and being our brother's keeper."

The country is now in Stage 1 of its National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in which the primary focus is containment to prevent community spread.

As a result, several measures have taken effect. All public gatherings such as sporting and cultural events or any event that attracts crowds will be restricted to 100 persons; visits by members of the public to all public and private geriatric institutions are suspended until further

notice; and visits to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital are restricted to protect elderly patients as well as those suffering with non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

During an interview at Ilaro Court last night before any confirmed cases were announced, Prime Minister Mia Motley called on Barbadians 70 years and over and those with health challenges to self-quarantine as much as possible for the next 12 weeks, as elderly persons were the most vulnerable segment of the population, along with persons suffering from NCDs.

Minister Bostic said this morning that an isolation centre has been set up with six isolation beds, and quarantine facilities are in place at the Barbados Defence Force (BDF) Paragon Base in the southern parish of Christ Church and the Elyne Scantlebury Centre in the north, in the parish of St Lucy. Additional quarantine and isolation facilities will be available in St Lucy within weeks, and the BDF's Field Medical Facility has also been set up to provide additional screening, quarantine and isolation services.

Residents have been urged to play their part in preventing the spread of the virus in the country, by being vigilant about putting into practise the public health advice that includes: washing hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer; practising social distancing, that is, maintain a distance of at least one metre or three feet from anyone who is visibly ill or who is coughing or sneezing; and avoiding touching mouth, eyes and nose; covering mouth and nose with tissue when coughing or sneezing or doing so into bent elbow.

Anyone with a fever, cough or difficulty breathing, especially if they were in an affected region within the previous 14 days or think they may have been in contact with someone who was, is ad-

vised to call their healthcare provider, the nearest polyclinic or the Ministry's COVID-19 hotline (536-4500) for advice.

Below are the stages of Barbados' National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan:

**Stage 1:** Isolated case of COVID-19 detected in Barbados

Activation of National Emergency Operations Centre for national preparedness

Activation of Isolation Centre.

Preparation of severe treatment facility and Paragon, St. Lucy District Hospital or Field Medical Hospital for screening, quarantine and isolation.

Reconfiguring of polyclinics to facilitate local screening.

Advice on limiting mass gathering to reduce risk for local spread.

**Stage 2:** Confirmed human-to-human spread of COVID-19 in Barbados.

Small clusters in Barbados ( $\leq 25$  cases) with limited human-to-human spread, but spread is highly localised.

Continued sensitisation of general public.

Standing up of one supplementary facility for moderate cases requiring hospitalisation (schools and Field Medical Hospital).

Designated additional capacity for screening (churches, community centres, schools).

**Stage 3:** Large clusters of COVID-19 human to human spread.

Increased and sustained transmission in the general population

Evidence of widespread locally and health services are overwhelmed (increase in visits of more than 10%) – State of Emergency Declared.

Cabinet members sequestered.

Additional supplementary hospitalisation facilities for moderate cases deployed. Prohibiting mass gatherings.

Persons without respiratory distress to self-isolate.

Recommend that ill workers get 5-7 days without sick leave form.



► Minister of Health and Wellness, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic making the announcement this morning

## Threat Levels

**Minimal Threat:** Confirmed international cases localised to one country/region.

**Considerable Threat:** Confirmed international cases detected in more than one country or in a country with extensive travel/ trade links with Barbados.

**Substantial Threat:** Confirmed regional cases.

**Present Threat:** Confirmed local case(s), which is equivalent to Phase 1, 2 and 3.

Several other Caribbean countries are dealing with COVID-19 cases, including: Aruba, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, the Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Saint Barthelemy, St Lucia, Saint Martin, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Puerto Rico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

According to the World Health Organization, the total number of COVID-19 cases as of yesterday was 167,515 and there were 6,606 deaths. For the first time, the number of cases and deaths outside China overtook the total number in that East Asian country. There were 81,077 confirmed cases and 3,218 deaths in China and 86,434 confirmed cases and 3,388 deaths in 150 other countries. 🌐

# St Lucia's Prime Minister Tested for Coronavirus

St Lucia's Prime Minister Allen Chastanet is awaiting results after being tested for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) today.

A brief statement from the Office of the Prime Minister said Chastanet was feeling unwell this morning "and in accordance with the established protocols, went into self-quarantine".

"The Prime Minister immediately stayed away from all of his meetings and engagements. In keeping with the protocols as advised by the Chief Medical Officer the Prime Minister has been tested for COVID-19 and we await the results," it said. "As soon as the results are available the public will be informed."

News of the Prime Minister's illness came a day after he addressed the nation on COVID-19.

St Lucia has two confirmed cases of COVID-19.

All educational institutions in the island were closed, as of yesterday, until April 13, which coincides with the Easter break.

During his address, Chastanet announced several other measures.

Mass crowd events of more than 50 persons have been discouraged. The St Lucia Jazz Festival has been cancelled and a meeting with the stakeholders of the cultural and creative industries will be held to discuss the way forward for the island's Carnival and other events.

All cruise ship calls have been suspended for 30 days, starting yesterday, and all yachting and pleasure craft calls into St Lucia will be suspended with immediate effect.

Additionally, from today, travel restrictions were further expanded to mainland France, Germany, Spain, Iran and the United Kingdom.

"We have also strengthened our protocols for screening visitors arriving at both the air and sea ports," Chastanet said.

The Prime Minister said his Government has also reached out to friendly governments such as Taiwan, Cuba and India to provide technical support as we strengthen our ability to manage this virus.

He also appealed to residents not to lose their compassion and to act sensibly and with due attention to be their neighbour's keeper.

"If this virus has taught us anything else, it has taught about the obligation we have to care and protect each other. It is in so doing that we shall overcome any threat that COVID-19 could potentially pose to us as a country," Prime Minister Chastanet said. "In the coming days, we will announce a National Day



► St Lucia's Prime Minister Allen Chastanet was tested for COVID-19 after feeling unwell

of Prayer to call upon God's mercy. Taking into consideration the protocol on social distancing, it will not be a physical gathering but we will ask for everyone's participation." 🌐

# The COVID-19 Outbreak: Implications for Tourism-Dependent Caribbean Countries

... Continued story from page B2

2020, we would expect the impacts to be considerably more severe.

## Shock Scenarios via the Tourism Sector

Table 1 provides illustrative shock scenarios, reflecting a range of possible impacts of the crisis on output (GDP) for our six countries. Note that these are based on estimates of both the direct and total contributions of tourism to GDP (see Figure 1, above) for each of our countries, based on data available from the World Bank / World Travel and Tourism Council. We simulate the possible impact on GDP of 3 shock magnitudes (i.e., a reduction of tourism activity by 25 per cent, 50 per cent, and 75 per cent) over 3 time horizons beginning on April 1, 2020 (i.e., through end-June 2020, end-Sep. 2020, and end-Dec. 2020). Our simulations take into account historical seasonal arrival patterns for each of the shock horizons. They do not, however, take into account shocks to other sectors (e.g., merchandise or commodities trade) or second round effects. Similarly, we apply the shock to the historical contributions of tourism to GDP, which does not take into account the non-linear properties of such a shock, particularly the fact that shorter duration shocks are likely to have less severe implications for op-

erators (e.g., hotels, restaurants, service providers, etc.) than a prolonged crisis — e.g., a short-lived shock may not require lay-offs or extended closures, or lead to major financial difficulties, whereas a prolonged shock could force operators to make more severe adjustments.

Results: While our shock scenarios (Table 1) are incomplete as they do not take all transmission channels or second round effects into account, they do highlight that the impacts of a short-lived crisis on tourism-driven output would be considerably less damaging than one that extends through the peak season beginning later in the year — particularly for countries with large seasonal variations. As noted, we apply the same shock scenarios to two variables: the direct (Table 1.1) and total (Table 1.2) contributions of tourism to each country's overall output. At the extreme, a high-impact scenario of a 75 per cent reduction in tourism arrivals over the last 3 quarters of the year could reduce GDP relative to the pre-crisis baseline expectation by between 11 per cent and 26 per cent in the case of Bahamas, and by appreciable magnitudes also for Barbados and Jamaica. Countries that are less tourism dependent would also be less affected across our range of scenarios, though other channels not simulated here could also have large impacts.

Policy Implications: Given the rapidly evolving nature of this crisis, any impact

estimates are subject to considerable uncertainty. What is clear is that the spread of the virus, its implications for global financial markets, and measures being undertaken by governments around the world have grown more severe with every passing day. In this context, CCB governments are likely to face increased financing needs driven by both direct costs of crisis mitigation, and from revenue implications of the economic shock, and that policymakers should work towards developing contingencies and identifying low-cost supplemental financing options over the near term, including those available from international financial institutions. A failure to do so could have adverse implications for longer term fiscal and debt sustainability, and put at risk the hard-won gains achieved by many countries in the region over recent years.

Henry Mooney serves as Economics Advisor with the IDB's Caribbean Department, and was formerly the Bank's Lead Economist based in Jamaica. He previously worked in investment banking with Morgan Stanley in London, and with the

| Country           | Shock Duration     | Shock Magnitude (% loss of tourism activity) |      |       |
|-------------------|--------------------|--|------|-------|
|                   |                    | 25%  | 50%  | 75%   |
| The Bahamas       | Apr. 1 to end-June | 1.3%   | 2.5% | 3.8%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 2.3%   | 4.6% | 6.9%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 3.5%   | 7.0% | 10.5% |
| Barbados          | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.2%   | 1.4% | 2.1%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 1.2%   | 2.5% | 3.7%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 2.2%   | 4.3% | 6.5%  |
| Guyana            | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.2%   | 0.9% | 0.5%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.3%   | 0.6% | 0.8%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 0.5%   | 0.9% | 1.4%  |
| Jamaica           | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.6%   | 1.2% | 1.8%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 1.1%   | 2.2% | 3.3%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 1.6%   | 3.6% | 5.4%  |
| Suriname          | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.1%   | 0.1% | 0.2%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.1%   | 0.2% | 0.4%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 0.2%   | 0.4% | 0.6%  |
| Trinidad & Tobago | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.2%   | 0.3% | 0.5%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.3%   | 0.6% | 0.9%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 0.5%   | 1.0% | 1.5%  |

| Country           | Shock Duration     | Shock Magnitude (% loss of tourism activity) |       |       |
|-------------------|--------------------|--|-------|-------|
|                   |                    | 25%  | 50%   | 75%   |
| The Bahamas       | Apr. 1 to end-June | 3.1%   | 6.3%  | 9.4%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 5.7%   | 11.5% | 17.2% |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 8.7%   | 17.5% | 26.2% |
| Barbados          | Apr. 1 to end-June | 2.1%   | 4.3%  | 6.4%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 3.5%   | 7.0%  | 10.5% |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 6.8%   | 13.5% | 20.3% |
| Guyana            | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.4%   | 0.9%  | 1.2%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.7%   | 1.2%  | 1.8%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 1.2%   | 2.4%  | 3.6%  |
| Jamaica           | Apr. 1 to end-June | 1.2%   | 2.4%  | 3.7%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 2.4%   | 4.8%  | 7.1%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 3.6%   | 7.1%  | 10.7% |
| Suriname          | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.2%   | 0.3%  | 0.5%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.3%   | 0.6%  | 0.9%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 0.5%   | 1.0%  | 1.5%  |
| Trinidad & Tobago | Apr. 1 to end-June | 0.4%   | 0.9%  | 1.3%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Sep. | 0.8%   | 1.7%  | 2.5%  |
|                   | Apr. 1 to end-Dec. | 1.3%   | 2.7%  | 4.0%  |

Note: Arrivals include air and cruise passengers. Impact is seasonally adjusted for arrivals beginning on April 1. Using monthly data for 2019. Average proportional monthly arrivals for these three countries are then used for seasonal adjustments applied to other countries for which monthly data was not available. Source: World Bank / World Travel and Tourism Council; The Bahamas' Tourism Today Report; Barbados' Department of Statistics; Jamaica Tourist Board; and authors' calculations.

IMF and World Bank, including in dozens of countries in Africa, Asia, Central Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Maria Alejandra is part of the Caribbean Economics Team (CET), providing support in the creation of research products and coordinating some CET activities from the IDB's head office. She holds a master's in Economics from Brown University and is a former Fulbright Scholar. 🌐



## GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

*The pandemic caused by the coronavirus, aka Covid-19, has overtaken every aspect of world news. So for the time being in our weekly global briefs section, the Caymanian Times is bringing an update on the six countries we regularly cover.*

## Canada closes all borders

Canada has closed its borders to all foreign nationals except for US citizens, as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau unveiled "increasingly aggressive" measures to contain the new coronavirus outbreak and urged people to stay at home.

"Over the past few days, we've seen Covid-19 spread around the world at an even faster pace. Canada is no exception," Trudeau said. He was speaking from outside his home where he is in self-imposed quarantine after his wife, Sophie Grégoire Trudeau tested positive for the virus last week.

"We assured you that as the situation evolved, our response would evolve too as the virus continues to spread. We've decided to take increasingly aggressive steps to keep you and your family safe. All Canadians as much as possible should stay home."

Trudeau said the borders will remain open for shipping but said his government will restrict flights to Canada to airports in Toronto Pearson, Montreal-Trudeau, Vancouver International and Calgary International.

The move to close its borders contrasts with previous comments from the country's health minister, Patty Hajdu, who rejected the idea on Friday. But in recent days, Canada has experienced a surge in cases, prompting the country's



► Justin Trudeau's wife, Sophie, tested positive for the virus

chief public health officer, Theresa Tam, to warn residents that the chance to prevent the healthcare system from becoming overwhelmed is closing fast.

"Our window to flatten the curve of the epidemic is narrow," Tam said over the weekend. "We all need to act now. Covid-19 is a serious public health threat."

Canada had 377 confirmed cases of the coronavirus – more than double Friday's figures.

On Monday morning, the province of Ontario announced 17 testing sites and a C\$10m (KY\$5.9m) public awareness campaign, as well as emergency legislation that would bar companies from laying off employees who have to self-quarantine. 🌐

## Philippines imposes sweeping restrictions

Millions of people in the Philippines were left confined after the introduction of surprise quarantine measures that have caused chaos in the capital, Manila, as countries across south-east Asia imposed sweeping restrictions in response to a recent wave of coronavirus cases.

Footage from Manila showed long queues of workers stranded at checkpoints, and commuters scrambling to climb on to the back of crowded lorries after a ban on public transport that was introduced at midnight with just a few hours of warning.

Infections in the country have risen from six to 187 during the past 10 days, prompting the president, Rodrigo Duterte, to introduce aggressive measures, describing the outbreak as "the fight of our lives". Fourteen people in the country have died. Its largest and most populous island, Luzon, population 58 million, has been placed under effective lockdown.

On Tuesday, the Philippines became the first country to shut its fi-



► Philippines imposed severe restrictions on short notice

nanial markets because of the rise in transmission rates of the virus, while Duterte declared a state of calamity, freeing up funds for local government. It is unclear how people who depend on daily work will cope financially, or how the millions of residents who live in slum areas will isolate themselves if they become ill.

A rise in patient numbers across the region – where nations had initially recorded relatively few cases – follows a ramping up of testing efforts. The increases have cast doubt on suggestions that warmer weather may stop the virus, and prompted a growing number of governments to introduce curbs on movement. 🌐

## Honduras lockdowns everywhere

The Honduras was in a state of near lockdown from Monday after the government decided to send public and private sector workers home, temporarily call off flights, and suspend public transport to halt the spread of the virus.

The violent, impoverished Central American nation rolled out the measures late on Sunday in a bid to snuff out the virus which has so far infected six people. The measures will be in effect for seven days, the government said, bolstering a drive by several Cen-

tral American countries to stop coronavirus.

Exceptions to the public sector suspensions include people working in healthcare, emergency services, security and national defence, customs, migration, ports and airports.

In the private sector, banks, hospitals, pharmaceutical firms, gas stations, freight operators and a few other sectors will continue to operate, the government said. Shopping malls and public places were virtually empty. 🌐



► Malls in Honduras were virtually empty

## Cuba turns factory into facemask supplier

Cuba is getting creative about facemasks to battle coronavirus.

The government has converted a textile factory in Sancti Spiritus and is producing face masks with the aim of protecting people from the coronavirus, instead of making school uniforms and other items.

Masks have become increasingly hard to find in many countries shattered by the outbreak, but Cubans are famous for their ability to figure out a solution despite any obstacles. Cuba's Health Ministry has even posted a video online advising Cubans how to make their own masks. The factory has already made thousands of the masks.

Cuban health officials announced that three Italian tourists were the island's first confirmed cases of the sickness. The tourists apparently brought the illness with them on holiday when they arrived in Cuba on Monday and are now in isolation at a hospital in Havana.

Cuban health officials said they had 3,200 beds ready across the island and several military hospitals would be opened to the public to handle a potential influx of people with the virus.



► Cuba has no shortage of masks now

Although Cuban officials said they had recently increased screening at airports, no restrictions have been placed on visitors from any of the countries hardest hit by the coronavirus. The Cuban economy is dependent on tourism, which has been in decline following a series of punishing economic sanctions and travel restrictions from the US government.

While Cuban health professionals have a long history of working in disaster zones, the coronavirus will present a unique challenge to the island's already battered public health care system.

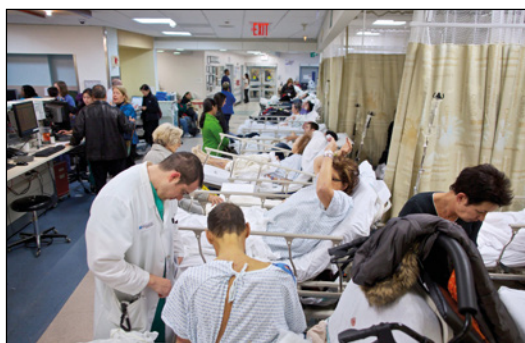
Thousands of Cuban doctors are abroad on medical missions, earning badly needed hard currency for the island's government. 🌐

## UK fears 250,000 could die

British scientists have warned that up to 250,000 people will die in the UK as a result of the coronavirus outbreak unless more draconian measures are adopted to protect the population. The Imperial College Covid-19 response team – which has been advising ministers – said that even with the 'social distancing' plans set out by the Government, the health system will be 'overwhelmed many times over'.

In its latest report, it said the only 'viable strategy' was a Chinese-style policy of 'suppression' involving the social distancing of the entire population. It said such measures would need to be maintained potentially for months until an effective vaccine became available.

The stark warning came after Prime Minister Boris Johnson unveiled unprecedented peacetime measures on Monday to try to control the spread of Covid-19. They were announced as the death toll of people with coronavirus in the UK reached 55. By the next day, 12 more, aged 45 to 93 died. Johnson called



► UK hospital wards are packed

on people to stay away from pubs, clubs and theatres and to avoid all non-essential contacts and travel.

"Covid-19 presents the National Health Service with the greatest challenge it has faced since its creation," NHS chiefs have said.

All non-urgent NHS operations will be postponed for three months and private hospital beds will be purchased "in bulk" to drastically free up resources, a letter sent to all NHS Trusts from Sir Simon Stevens, NHS Chief Executive, revealed. 🌐

## Venezuela ill equipped for pandemic

There is no ideal time for a pandemic, but fewer countries are less equipped to deal with the Covid-19 outbreak than crisis-ridden Venezuela, warn doctors and public health experts.

Bed shortages, a lack of isolation areas and short supplies of soap are already a daily reality in most hospitals. Cases of Covid-19 reached 33 in Venezuela on Monday evening, following the first two confirmed cases three days earlier. The government responded with a quarantine in the capital, Caracas, and six other states, alongside travel bans. On Monday the regulation was extended to the whole country.

But the outbreak could hardly come at a worse time for Venezuela, which despite boasting the planet's largest proven oil reserves remains mired in years-long economic and social turmoil. Hyperinflation is rampant – Venezuela's central bank said inflation



► Venezuelans are most susceptible to the virus

reached nearly 10,000 percent last year – while shortages in basic foodstuffs and medical supplies are routine.

Hospitals regularly face power outages, while basic supplies – from latex gloves to basic antibiotics – are often hard to come by. Four and a half million people have fled Venezuela, with healthcare workers and disease specialists among them. Treatable diseases such as diphtheria, measles and malaria continue to spread in fertile conditions. 🌐





► Brady could end up with the 49ers



► Tom Brady is a Patriots legend

## Brady still has lots of options

Tom Brady's departure after 20 glorious years with the New England Patriots which saw him win six Super Bowls, doesn't come as a complete surprise. He turns 43 this summer and was on the slide but still commanded enormous respect for an incredible record that puts him on the shortlist of greatest ever quarterbacks.

Brady was drafted by the Patriots in 2000 and helped them win the Super Bowl in 2001, 2003, 2004, 2014, 2016 and, at the age of 41, in 2018. He also lost in three Super Bowls.

The Patriots did not record a losing season while Brady was their starting quarterback. He was named the league's most valuable player three times, to the Pro Bowl 14 times and is a certainty for

the hall of fame when he retires. His 74,571 passing yards are second all-time among NFL quarterbacks and his 541 passing touchdowns are also second on the all-time list.

Brady is a free agent this off-season and was able to speak to rival teams from Monday with the full free agency window opening on Wednesday. So what's next for the golden arm? Even in his vintage playing years, he can still make an impact in the NFL.

One place Brady will not be going is New Orleans. Drew Brees, the only man with more all-time passing yards and touchdowns passes than Brady, has confirmed he will stay with the Saints, whose back-up quarterback Teddy Bridgewater is now a free agent.

But the Los Angeles Chargers need a new QB with veteran Philip Rivers leaving, while Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach Bruce Arians has named Brady as a potential target after Jameis Winston became the first man to throw 30 touchdown passes and 30 interceptions in the same season.

The Raiders are relocating from Oakland to Vegas and may consider trading Derek Carr in favour of a big name to help fill their new 65,000-seater stadium and create a buzz around Sin City.

Tennessee was touted as a possible destination until Ryan Tannehill, who took the Titans to within one game of the Super Bowl after becoming the starter mid-season, signed an extension on Sunday.

Rivers and Winston are both free agents, and Andy Dalton could be made

available too. The Cincinnati Bengals have this year's first draft pick and are expected to choose highly rated QB Joe Burrow, allowing Dalton to move on.

Surprisingly, the San Francisco 49ers, who were less than three minutes from winning Super Bowl 54, have emerged as a potential suitor for Brady. Rumours are that Brady's boyhood club are interested in bringing him home to California and trading his former back-up Jimmy Garoppolo back to the Patriots.

And the likes of Cam Newton, Joe Flacco and Nick Foles, who have all led teams to the Super Bowl in the last seven years, may also be given the chance to start afresh at the Patriots after poor form and injuries. The speculation is just getting started. 🌐

## Joshua fight will be postponed over virus

Anthony Joshua's world heavyweight title defence against Bulgarian Kubrat Pulev at Tottenham Hotspur's stadium on June 20 could be postponed to July due to the coronavirus outbreak, promoter Eddie Hearn said.

The bout would have been after the Premier League season finished but, with soccer on hold and European championship soccer finals postponed to 2021, any rescheduled fixtures could now run into the summer.

That could mean the 62,000-seater stadium is no longer available on that date.

"For the Anthony Joshua fight, there are already potential plans to move that fight back to July. We do have a potential date for that," Hearn said.

"A requirement for Anthony in his next fight, a necessity for him, was to box in the UK. June 20 is a long time away, it's still in our plans. We have been speaking to Tottenham and making sure that we're all on the same page."

Hearn has other big heavyweight clashes coming up, with Dillian Whyte set to fight Russian Alexander Povetkin in Manchester on May 2 and Dereck Chisora



► Anthony Joshua is likely to fight in July

facing Ukrainian Oleksandr Usyk on May 23 at London's O2.

Whyte is the mandatory challenger for the WBC heavyweight belt, now held by Britain's Tyson Fury. Usyk is the mandatory challenger for WBA, IBO and IBF champion Joshua's WBO crown.

"All of those events are subject to change right now. We hope they won't need to be moved but we also understand this is constantly evolving," said Hearn. 🌐

## Gayle wants '10 more T20' tons

W Indies star Chris Gayle does not intend to retire anytime soon, this time expressing the desire to score another ten T20 centuries.

The 40-year-old Jamaican is already at the top of the list with 14,923 runs inclusive of 24 centuries. Gayle considered retiring after the last World Cup, before picking a series in the West Indies against India as a final swansong.

He has, however, had a complete change of heart even ignoring advice to retire, insisting he is feeling good and hopes to play for another five years. With the World Cup fast approaching, Gayle has been out of action for his international team since last year but has continued to participate in various T20 leagues around the world. He is expected to take part in the upcoming Indian Premier League campaign. 🌐



► Chris Gayle, 40, wants a World Cup place despite his age

## Liverpool clear out will strengthen squad

Liverpool have looked like champions elect for much of the Premier League season and, barring any coronavirus interference, will be officially awarded a first title in 30 years at some point.

But Jurgen Klopp is still yet to win a domestic trophy and will be keen to reclaim the Champions League.

Excellent recruitment, led by sporting director Michael Edwards, has been the cornerstone of Liverpool's rise in recent times and will no doubt be called upon again.

The Reds opted for continuity over change last summer with no major new faces coming in - it is unlikely that will be the case again this summer.

Liverpool have few flaws, but the German is reliant on a cluster of players who tend to start most games. But fatigue, injury and dip in form could affect their fabulous record.

That has inevitably led to suggestions certain players could quit the Reds to find regular first team games elsewhere. The players most likely to be moved on are fringe squad members like Divock Origi, Nathaniel Clyne, Dejan Lovren and Xherdan Shaqiri. Lovren, 30, is a target for both Arsenal and Tottenham.



► Riyad Mahrez is wanted by PSG

Meanwhile, Manchester City will not block a move for Algeria winger Riyad Mahrez, 29, to join Paris St-Germain in the summer. Manchester United will make a serious attempt to sign Barcelona and France centre-back Samuel Umtiti, 26, this summer. Chelsea will prioritise a deal for Lyon's French striker Moussa Dembele, 23, when the summer transfer window opens. The Blues have contacted Porto over a move for Brazilian left-back Alex Telles, 27. Chelsea

and Manchester City are keeping tabs on Inter Milan and Argentina striker Lautaro Martinez. The 22-year-old is also a target for Barcelona. (Sport - in Spanish)

Arsenal forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang wants to join Barcelona. Some of the 30-year-old Gabon international's relatives have already moved to the area.

England left-back Leighton Baines, 35, wants to sign a new one-year deal

at Everton despite rumours linking him with a move to LA Galaxy.

Everton are preparing to join Inter Milan in the battle to sign Roma and Italy midfielder Lorenzo Pellegrini, 23.

AC Milan are resigned to selling Italian goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma in the transfer window, with the 21-year-old's contract expiring next summer.

Real Madrid could look to sign Rennes and France Under-21 midfielder Eduardo Camavinga, 17. 🌐



► Dejan Lovren could move to London







# Caymanian Times

Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday

## DAILY PAPER



| Description                                   | CI\$ | Size (inches) W x H | Maximum # of words |
|---|------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Newspaper Advertisement Full page             | 900  | 10 x 20             | 1 800              |
| Newspaper Advertisement 2/3 page              | 600  | Customized          | 1 200              |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal) | 500  | 10 x 9.9            | 900                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (Vertical)   | 500  | 4.9 x 20            | 900                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/3 page              | 400  | Customized          | 700                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page              | 300  | 4.9 x 9.9           | 450                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page              | 225  | 4.8 x 7.4           | 350                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page              | 150  | 4.9 x 4.85          | 250                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/12 page             | 105  | 4.9 x 2.35          | 200                |
| Newspaper Advertisement 1/32 page             | 75   | Customized          | 150                |
| Newspaper Advertisement Mini                  | 25   | Customized          | 75                 |
| Graphic Design                                | 50   | n/a                 |                    |
| Front Page Banner A Section                   | 300  | 10 x 2.5            |                    |
| Front Page Banner B Section                   | 200  | 10 x 2.5            |                    |
| Other Banner                                  | 100  | 10 x 2.5            |                    |
| Back Page A Section                           | 700  | 10 x 20             |                    |
| Back Page B Section                           | 500  | 10 x 20             |                    |
| Insert (4 pages)                              | 750  | n/a                 |                    |
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| Website Advertising per month                 | 600  |                     |                    |
|   |      |                     |                    |
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| Publication Day | Deadline (12pm (noon)) |
|-----------------|------------------------|
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| Friday          | Wednesday              |

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