

1 95893 43652 1



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

● **GOVERNMENT** — page 6



Parliament Management Council Holds First Meeting

● **LOCAL NEWS** — page 7



LOCAL FINANCIAL SECTOR SCRUTINY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

● **OPPOSITION SPEAKS** — page 11



CHALLENGING TIMES AHEAD FOR CAYMAN

New Appointments at WORC



See story on page 5 >>

► (L-R) Training & Development Manager Allison Lovinggood, Acting Interim Director Laura Watter, Head of Customer Care Marshiene Juman

Tourism Minister meets with CITA



► CITA Meeting with members of Cabinet

Tourism Minister, Hon. Kenneth Bryan is wasting no time becoming acquainted with key tourism stakeholders.

Earlier this week, Minister Bryan hosted an introductory meeting with members of the Cayman Islands Tourism Association's (CITA) Executive Committee, to address issues affecting Cayman's tourism industry as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting also provided a forum for discussing the work that has been undertaken by the CITA membership in preparation for the safe reopening of the Cayman Islands borders.

With Deputy Premier, Hon. Christopher Saunders and Minister for Health and Wellness Hon. Sabrina Turner also in attendance, CITA President Marc Langevin provided a brief outline of the organisation

SEE BRYAN MEETS WITH CITA, Page 4

ADVERTISE YOUR EMPLOYMENT ADS
with
Caymanian Times Newspaper



Fast & Affordable - Accepted by WORC
Email
sales@caymaniantimes.ky
or call 9162000 / 9458463

Census 2021 Official Launch This Month

The Census is coming. The time for everyone to be counted gets closer each day.

Census 2021 gets officially launched this month first on **Cayman Brac** on

Friday, 21 May 2021 at the **Stake Bay Government Administration Building grounds**, from **10-11 am**.

On Grand Cayman, the official launch will be at the **Marriott Resort** on **Wednesday, 26 May 2021** from **10-11 am**.

The Economics and Statistics Office invites members of the public to both events.



Programme highlights include an emphasis on why the Census is such an important exercise for any jurisdiction, especially since it is a vital tool that governments can use to serve the people in a democracy.

Also to be presented at the official launches will be a specially created Census jingle.

Postal Service Clarifies about Delivery of Collection Notices

The Cayman Islands Postal Service has recently received a number of customer queries regarding printed "Notice of Item for Collection" no longer being sent to post office boxes.

The CIPS wishes to advise customers that a printed "Notice of Item for Collection" is sent to the post office box where the delivery address includes a post office box number.

Additionally, if the sender provided an email or cell phone number, the CIPS will also attempt to notify the addressee by email or text message.

In some cases, the delivery address is not valid and no email or phone number was provided.



If such an item has a tracking number, the item is held for at least 30 days to allow the addressee and/or sender who may be tracking it to see from tracking updates that the item is ready for collection.

If a customer is waiting for a package and has not received a **printed notice, email or text message**, please visit our website www.caymanpost.gov.ky and use the link to track the item.

Alternatively, please contact us via e-mail at CIPSCustomerCare@gov.ky and provide your full name, address, country of origin for the item and the tracking number.

CUSTOM PHOTO PRINTING & FRAMING
CANVAS AND FINE ART PAPERS

Copying
Mounting
Stretching
Restoration
& MORE

WORLD FAMOUS
CathyChurch's
Photo Centre

AT SUNSET HOUSE 949- 7415 OPEN MON- SAT 10AM- 5PM
CATHY@CATHYCHURCH.COM

Caymanian Times
Issue # 662

Publisher: Ralph Lewis
Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd
#19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)
Telephone: 345 916 2000
Email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky,
or info@caymaniantimes.ky
Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky

COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule

MAY 2021

The COVID-19 vaccine is available to ALL persons 16 years and over, regardless of surname.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	11 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	12 CAMANA BAY 5-9pm	13 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	14 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	15 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
17 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Clinic Closed	18 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	19 BODDEN TOWN PUBLIC BEACH 5 – 9pm	20 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	21 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	22 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
24 WEST BAY - SIR JOHN A. CUMBER PRIMARY HALL 5-9pm	25 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	26 EAST END 4 – 9pm	27 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	28 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	29 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm

31
WEST BAY -
SIR JOHN A. CUMBER
PRIMARY HALL
5-9pm

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC LOCATIONS

- ORIA - OWEN ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- CAMANA BAY (FORMER CAYMAN MAC LOCATION)
- DISTRICTS – AS NOTED ON THE SCHEDULE

DOSE 1 & 2 will be given at any of the published clinic times.

When receiving your 2nd dose, you MUST also bring along your vaccination card reflecting your 1st dose.

(Do NOT laminate your card)

The date on your vaccination card for the 2nd dose is the **earliest** that is recommended.

All persons must present photo identification showing date of birth.

Facemask required – Please bring your own.

Most up to date schedule will be on www.hsa.ky

V1

Tourism Minister Discusses Marketing Strategy with CIDOT Leadership Team

Hon. Kenneth Bryan, Minister for Tourism had his first opportunity to gain deeper insight into the inner workings of the Department of Tourism (CIDOT) at a Ministerial briefing held with the Department's leadership team on Wednesday 12 May.

The briefing included presentations highlighting the various subject areas and functions under the Department's remit, and delved into the analytics and research which influences the CIDOT's strategies for attracting visitors to the Cayman Island.

Following a brief welcome by Director of Tourism, Rosa Harris, the full-day meeting quickly got underway, providing the Minister with a comprehensive organisational overview. The topics covered included the CIDOT's information systems and technology, tourism product development, finance and administration, public relations, national promotions and events among others.

"As the new Minister for Tourism, I am keen to understand as much as possible about the global and regional environment Cayman is operating in and how our tourism product can rise to the top of that fiercely competitive space, said Minister Bryan.

Stressing the importance of encouraging more Caymanians to join the Tourism in-

dustry, Minister Bryan outlined the PACT Government's workforce expectations stating "My colleagues in Cabinet and I are committed to ensuring that Caymanians are given the opportunity to fill the roles vacated by expatriate workers who have returned home due to the pandemic. Our people are our greatest asset and increasing the number of Caymanians in the tourism and hospitality industry would provide a more authentic Caymanian experience which visitors want and expect while vacationing in these Islands," he said.

In addition to presentations, the on-boarding session included an informative synopsis of the thought processes and marketing tactics which underpin the CIDOT's campaigns, and provided the Minister with opportunities to impart his vision and guidance during candid discussions on each subject area.

Tom Ludington, General Manager of the CIDOT's New York office provided an insightful snapshot of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on travel in the USA, along with the short to medium term outlook regarding travel trends and sentiments in Cayman's core market region. Similar presentations covering the situational outlook in the UK and Canada were also delivered by the respective Country Managers of those regions.

"The calibre of work that I am seeing is very impressive and shows me that the Department of Tourism has a solid understanding of the nuances of Cayman's tourism product, as well as the expectations of our core markets," said Minister Bryan.

"I am excited to lead such a diverse and creative team that clearly has the experience and expertise to spearhead the Cayman Islands marketing and promotions initiatives. I look forward to contributing to the ideas and strategies that will be developed to entice travellers to our shores in the future, the Minister continued.

As the marketing arm of the Ministry of Tourism, the CIDOT is primarily responsible for developing innovative promotions which resonate with potential travellers in our core markets. The Dream in Cayman campaign which launched in 2019 prior to the COVID pandemic, is one such example which successfully pushed the boundaries of destination advertising by presenting some of the islands most iconic locations with a high-fashion twist.

"Although our borders are currently closed to visitors, there is still a need to ensure that we are proactively prepared to take full advantage of the opportunities ahead, and we are at a crucial point in that strategic planning process. I am confident that visitors will be amazed by our level of



► Hon. Kenneth Bryan, Minister for Tourism

preparedness when it is safe to open our borders and Cayman's tourism product is reintroduced to the world, the Minister stated.

During the wrap up of the day's events, Minister Bryan thanked Mrs. Rosa Harris and the CIDOT senior leadership team for their hard work and dedication to the Cayman Islands and reaffirmed his desire to develop a collaborative and productive working relationship with each of them and their respective staff members.

DOT hails Global Citizen programme a success

There have been more than 100 applications from families, couples and individuals who want to make the Cayman Islands home, under the Department of Tourism's Global Citizen Concierge Programme, first launched in October 2020. As a result, the DOT said the programme had been a resounding success and had attracted "significant interest" from people who want to be able to work in Cayman remotely for their onshore businesses. They are allowed to live and work in Cayman for up to two years but have to meet certain criteria, including earning at least US\$100,000 per year (single person), US\$150,000 per couple or US\$180,000 for a family. Successful applicants have come from the United States and Europe, the DOT said.

Minister for Tourism and Transport Kenneth Bryan said they were extraordinarily proud of the programme, which was developed and led by the DOT from concept to implementation.

"The positive feedback from applicants reinforces that the Cayman Islands remains a much sought-after destination,



► CIDOT ministerial Briefing with Minister Bryan

despite the COVID pandemic closing our borders. I am committed to ensuring the continued success of the GCCP and will work closely with my colleagues to amplify the benefits of being a Global Citizen in the Cayman Islands," he stated.

The Cayman Islands has had to compete not only with other Caribbean destina-

tions to woo wealthy individuals to become temporary residents, but also with countries around the globe offering a similar service, so it had to provide such individuals with a reason to come to Cayman other than the beach and great weather. As such, a key attraction has been the flexibility of a 24-month stay, which provides

extended stability when compared to other destinations which may only offer a six month stay or less.

It should be noted, however, that successful applicants cannot become legal residents of the Cayman Islands through this programme, but they do have the ability to leave and return to the country throughout their 24-months stay, once they have met the minimum requirement of at least 90 days per 12 months stay on-island. The DOT said that they had to strictly stick to the mandatory travel protocols, including pre-approval through the TravelCayman process.

For more information on the Cayman Islands and to apply for the Global Citizen Concierge Program, visit www.visitcaymanislands.com. The Global Citizen Concierge Program call centre is open Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm CST and Saturday, 10:00am - 2:00pm CST by US Toll Free number: 001-833-418-1191 or by email at globalcitizen@caymanislands.ky.



Tourism Minister meets with Tourism Association Stakeholders

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

and its membership, which represents various sectors within the tourism industry, including Hotels, Restaurants, Transportation, Watersports, Condominiums and Villas and Land-Based attractions.

Following a presentation defining CITA's top priorities, which included full support for the Government's National Vaccination Programme, Mr. Langevin confirmed CITA's willingness to collaborate with the government regarding the establishment of safe reopening strategy. Discussions consequently focussed on the planning and logistical elements that would be re-

quired to support the Islands safe reopening goals.

"Tourism was the first industry to be affected by the pandemic and it will take time and a team effort to bring about its recovery" said Mr. Langevin. "CITA therefore looks forward to working with the Minister for Tourism and the PACT government in addressing the challenges and rebuilding our tourism industry in a strong and sustainable way."

Minister Bryan welcomed CITA's support and emphasised that any reopening plan would be contingent on having enough of the population vaccinated to achieve herd immunity. "With only 60% of

the population having received their first dose of the vaccine and 52% having completed the two dose course, we are still below the target set by Public Health," he said.

During discussions regarding the tourism labour force, Deputy Premier Saunders broadly outlined government's position stating "This administration is keen to foster productive partnerships with tourism stakeholders and we are open to discussing mechanisms that will enable the tourism industry to become a more attractive career option for Caymanians. The ultimate goal is to see a substantially higher percentage of Caymanians included in the tourism workforce, where they are able to derive a far more direct and quantitative improvement to the quality of their lives.

Agreeing with that sentiment, Minister Bryan added "The COVID pandemic has presented us with a timely opportunity to correct the imbalance that has existed for too long within our tourism workforce. Integrating more Caymanians into the vacant roles is a win-win situation that will add more authenticity to our tourism product, while providing Caymanians with the ability to be gainfully employed and able to support themselves and their families."

With the tourism industry being an important pillar industry and major contributor to the Islands economy, Minister Bryan noted that he greatly values and encourages collaboration with public and private sectors partners, and he looked forward to meeting with other tourism stakeholders in the future.



Cellular World

PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS
BAYTOWN PLAZA, WEST BAY ROAD



Business Survey 2021 Your Response Matters!

In 2019, total foreign exchange revenue from Cayman's export of services totalled CI \$3.1 billion.

Foreign Exchange Revenue from Services in 2019, CI\$Million



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

The annual Balance of Payments (BOP) Survey collects information necessary in recording the Cayman Islands residents' foreign transactions with the rest of the world. The survey runs April 12th to June 11th, 2021.

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

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

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



Caymanian Times

Monday
Wednesday
Friday

Advertising Rates

Description	CI\$	Size (inches) W x H	Maximum # of words
Newspaper Advertisement Full page	750	10 x 13.5	1200
Newspaper Advertisement 2/3 page	650	10 x 8.37 or 6.6 x 13.5	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal)	450	10 x 6.67	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (Vertical)	450	4.9 x 13.5	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/3 page	350	4.9 x 8.37	400
Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page	250	4.9 x 6.67	350
Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page	150	4.9 x 4.96	250
Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page	75	4.9 x 3.25 or 3.22 x 4.96	200
Newspaper Advertisement 1/16 page (Mini)	50	4.9 x 1.55 or 2.38 x 3.25	100
Front Page Banner	200	10 x 1.5	
Inserts	300		
Advertorial 1/2 Page	500		
Graphic Design	50		

All ads are full colour

Advertising Deadlines (48 Hours prior Publication Day)

Publication Day	Deadline (12pm (noon))
Monday	Friday
Wednesday	Monday
Friday	Wednesday

2 days notice for ads

For further information or to book an advert call 916 2000 or email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky

Moody's Affirms Cayman's Aa3 Ratings; Stable Outlook Maintained

Moody's, the international credit rating agency, has maintained Cayman's Aa3 rating for Government's bonds issued in foreign and local currency, and an Aaa rating as a country ceiling.

Minister for Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Chris Saunders commented, "Considering the record number of countries that have been downgraded as a result of the global pandemic, the reaffirmation of our rating as well as the "stable" outlook is testimony to the strength of our people and our economy. This is an achievement that all Caymanians and those who call the Cayman Islands home should be proud of as it shows that our collective sacrifices have not been in vain."

The "high" rating for the Cayman Islands Government positively affects all economic activity within the Cayman Islands. For instance, the robust Aa3 rating for the Government should result in a competitive

interest rate being offered if the Government decides to borrow – which in turn benefits the public since Government will have to pay a lesser amount in interest.

Additionally, the rating should inspire businesses' and investors' confidence in the Cayman Islands – which, in turn, leads to higher levels of investment in the Islands and that should translate into greater job opportunities for the public.

Cayman has a long history of having a stable political environment, policy continuity, high government effectiveness and sound financial management that has produced consecutive years of fiscal surpluses and a decreasing debt burden – which is key support for economic development.

Debt-to-GDP was 5.5% in 2019, which is a fraction of the 39% of GDP median for similarly rated countries.

The 19 April 2021 rating action report by Moody's can be found in full, to Moody's subscribers, at www.moody.com.



► Deputy Premier and Minister for Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Christopher Saunders welcomed Moody's reaffirmation

New Appointments at WORC

Workforce Opportunities and Residency Cayman's (WORC) welcomes several new Caymanian hires as a part of their management team and a change in senior management.

Effective 3 May 2021, Laura Watler assumed the post of Acting Interim Director. Ms Watler, is on secondment from the Portfolio of the Civil Service. The holder of a Master of Science in Management Information Systems from the University of Surrey, Ms Watler is certified by the International Coach Federation as a Professional Certified Coach (PCC) and she previously led a team of professionally certified coaches in the delivery of several successful leadership development programmes.

Previously, Ms Watler was instrumental in a wide range of public service projects and initiatives that were born out of the COVID-19 environment. During this period, Ms Watler was seconded to Hazard Management Cayman Islands ("HMCI"). She was integrated as the NEOC Operations Liaison Officer, where she worked with almost every department or authority in some capacity during the 100 days it was in operation. Ms Watler was also seconded to SRIU as a part of their Programme Management Office to assist with the Soft Border Reopening Programme and the critical projects of the Quarantine at Residence Programme, which included the Technology, Monitoring and Compliance Teams.

"I welcome and look forward to working with the entire WORC team and especially with the passionate, driven and inspiring recently hired Caymanian women as we continue forward with the vision and mission of WORC in enabling employment for Caymanians whilst equally ensuring economic prosperity for our Islands", shared Ms Watler.

The Customer Care unit also has a new Head of Customer Care with the recent hire of Ms Marshiene Juman.

Ms Juman is responsible for providing leadership, developing and implementing



► (L-R) Employment Services Manager Tania Ebanks with the Employment Services Team. Missing from photo are 2 Employment Services Officers

the Civil Service Customer Pledge DELIVER and related strategic plans to manage and continually improve and deliver outstanding customer care for both internal and external customers.

Ms Juman holds a Master of Business Administration with a focus in Management, International Business and Sustainability and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of South Florida. Her previous post as Front of House Manager at Health City Cayman Islands has provided her with experience in leading and mentoring teams daily. Ms Juman will be responsible for strategically delivering a customer service product as per the Customer Service Charter, a promise to both internal and external stakeholders. Leading the Customer Care Unit, Ms Juman will lead the efforts to continuously improve the processes and outcomes to ensure WORC delivers a quality customer experience.

With the new appointment of a Training & Development Manager, Ms Allison Lovinggood will primarily be responsible for developing, coordinating and delivering quality training programmes to equip staff at all levels effectively. She will offer supervisory and support to Administrative staff to achieve and maintain the required competency levels.

WORC's National Training & Development unit also added Programme Co-ordinators, Ms Allison Anglin and Ms Sheena Whittaker and Kandie Hurlston-Ruiz. They have the responsibility to provide planning and implementation of programme activities that support specialised Employment Programmes. The Employment Services unit also added to their team, managed by Ms Tania Ebanks, bring the total number of officers and managers who assist Caymanians in finding employment to nine.

Wesley Howell, the Chief Officer in the Ministry of Employment and Border Control, shared his gratitude for the professional Caymanian Ladies who have taken up employment with WORC, "with these appointments, the mission of WORC continues, which is to provide opportunities for Caymanian workers, ensuring that Caymanian owned businesses have the human resources necessary to aid in their success, thereby, strengthening the economy and global competitiveness of the Cayman Islands".

The leadership and support of Mr Jeremy Scott, the immediate past Interim Director (acting) was invaluable in continuing the transition of WORC. Mr Scott looks forward to resuming his substantive post as Deputy Director of Compliance, leading the effort to enforce the laws.

An open and transparent recruitment exercise for the Director of WORC will be conducted soon.

Parliament Management Council Holds First Meeting

New mechanisms for the management and functioning of an independent Parliament were activated with the first meeting of the new Parliament Management Council at the House of Parliament Thursday, 13 May 2021.

The council, headed by the Speaker of the House, comprises nine members as provided for by the Parliament Management Act, 2020. According to the law, the membership comprises the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, the Premier and three Government members appointed by the Premier as well as the Leader of the Opposition and two members appointed by the Opposition Leader.

The Chairman noted, "This is a historic moment as we have established ourselves as an autonomous Parliament and that we will ensure matters are addressed efficiently and effectively. Obviously, some issues will be dealt with expeditiously while others will be executed in a timely manner. Of critical importance is modernising our Standing Orders to reflect the contemporary times and render them more acceptable procedurally."

The council functions as a sub-set, and on behalf of, the Parliamentary Management Commission comprising all 19 members of the House.

The new council members are: Speaker Hon. W. McKeever Bush – Chair, Deputy Speaker Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, Premier Hon. Wayne Panton, Deputy Premier Hon. Christopher Saunders, Minister for Health, Hon. Sabrina Turner, and Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Isaac Rankine – representing the Government and Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Roy McTaggart, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Joey Hew and Hon. Alden McLaughlin – representing the Opposition.

The Clerk of Parliament, Ms Zena Merren-Chin is the ex-officio, non-voting member of the Council. Also, as a result



► Parliament Management Council members, headed by the Speaker, Hon. McKeever Bush, met for the first time today, Thursday, 13 May 2021, comprising (l-r) Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Isaac Rankine, Minister for Health Hon. Sabrina Turner, Deputy Speaker Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, Deputy Premier and Minister for Finance and Economic Development and Labour, Hon. Christopher Saunders, Premier Hon. Wayne Panton, Speaker Hon. McKeever Bush, Parliament Management Commission Chief Officer, Ms Zena Merren-Chin, Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Roy McTaggart, Hon. Alden McLaughlin and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Joey Hew (Photo by Bina Mani, GIS)

of one of the first tasks undertaken by the Council, the Clerk was appointed as the Chief Officer of the Commission today.

Under the law, the Commission is responsible for the administration and management of Parliament. The Commission's functions include:

a) carrying out the budgetary, financial and operational matters relating to the Parliament;

(b) establishing the executive, management and administrative structure of the Commission for the necessary discharge of the functions of the Commission;

(c) preparing regular budgets, financial and operational reports for submission to the Parliament;

(d) providing clerical staff, attendants and other staff to enable the House of Parliament and committees of the Parliament to operate efficiently;

(e) providing advice on parliamentary procedures and the functions of Parliament generally;

(f) providing an accurate and efficient reporting of proceedings of the Parliament and of meetings of committees of the Parliament as required;

(g) providing adequate library and research facilities and services for members of the House;

(h) providing security services within the precincts of the Parliament for the safe, orderly and efficient conduct of the business of the House of Parliament;

(i) selling laws and engaging in similar revenue earning activity;

(j) maintaining the Parliament building; and

(k) subject to the Public Management Act, making such rules as it thinks fit to regulate its own internal management.

Official Launch for Census 2021

The Census of Population and Housing of the Cayman Islands is scheduled to start on 10 October 2021.

As this is fast approaching, the Economics and Statistics Office, in cooperation with the multi-sectoral Census Advisory Committee and its sub-committees, is organising the official launch of the Census.

The launch is scheduled in Cayman Brac on Friday, 21 May 2021 at the District Administra-

tion Building grounds in Stake Bay at 10 am and in Grand Cayman on Wednesday 26 May, 2021 at the Marriott Resort at 10 am. The launch at the Brac is also in cooperation with the office of the Sister Islands' District Commissioner.

Members of the public are invited to attend and participate in both events.

Both events will mark the start of an education and publicity campaign on the impor-

tance of the Census in planning a better future for Cayman as well as how everyone counts in making it a successful national activity.

Messages at the launches will underscore the importance of Census 2021. On Grand Cayman, speakers include His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, CBE, who is also the Patron for Census 2021; the Premier and Minister for Sustainability and Climate Resiliency, Hon. Wayne Panton, JP, MP; and the Deputy Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development and Labour, Hon. Christopher Saunders, JP, MP.

On Cayman Brac, Minister for Education, District Administration, Lands and Survey, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, and District Commissioner Mr. Mark



Tibbetts, JP will be among those providing messages.

Financial Secretary and Chief Officer in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Mr. Kenneth Jefferson, JP will open both launches.

The launch will also introduce the Census spokespersons from various sectors, census' various processes, participants, benefits and uses in broad terms.

A specially created Census jingle will also be unveiled at the

Brac launch and will be included in the Grand Cayman launch as well. At both events, school children will sing the jingle.

A sign-up of potential Census workers is envisioned to cap both programmes.

The Master of Ceremonies of the Cayman Brac event will be Prevention Educator Mr. Keino Daley. His counterpart in the Grand Cayman event will be Radio Cayman talk show host Mr. Sterling Dwayne Ebanks.



LOCAL FINANCIAL SECTOR SCRUTINY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) has rejected assertions by the Maples Group which has filed for a judicial review into how the agency is enforcing anti-money laundering regulations.

In a press statement, CIMA says it has "noted with disappointment and extreme concern the fact that the Maples Group has thought it fit to issue the recent press release regarding their judicial review of the Authority's interpretation and application of certain provisions within the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations (AMLRs)."

"Such action was not only inappropriate, professionally irresponsible and crafty, but also entirely against the spirit of existing Court Orders that currently pertain to these proceedings," CIMA says.

According to the Maples Group, the regulatory and oversight agency has changed its approach to the application of certain provisions of the anti-money laundering regulations (AMLRs) without providing prior notice, consulting with industry stakeholders or issuing updated guidance notes.

CIMA says it wishes to make it abundantly clear that it intends to robustly defend these proceedings, and will strenuously resist any incursions into, or attempts to undermine, the strength of the jurisdiction's AML/CFT regime.

Stating that it takes its supervisory responsibilities extremely seriously, CIMA adds that it "will take all necessary actions whenever regulated entities repeatedly fail to address supervisory directions to comply with the jurisdiction's regulatory requirements."

The pushback from CIMA comes in a week when it has been engaged in another high-profile issue in its role of overseeing the jurisdiction's important financial services sector to ensure local and global industry compliance.

The regulatory agency for the Cayman Islands financial sector goes on to say that "as far as AML/CFT issues are concerned, these are not normal times, and persons conducting relevant financial business in or from these islands should be aware that it is not business as usual."

Financial services providers should also be aware that, given the increased scrutiny which the Cayman Islands faces due to our ongoing international obligations, all attempts to undermine the jurisdiction's ability to implement the AMLRs will be vehemently resisted, the agency stresses.

"This is not only necessary in the broader context of our role as an international financial services center, but vital to ensuring that the jurisdiction and its regulated entities take the required and necessary measures to prevent the misuse of legal persons and arrangements for money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crime."

CIMA says this is fundamental to upholding the integrity of our financial system, and the Authority will maintain continuous vigilance in that regard.

This strong public position taken by CIMA in its press release contrasts with the rather low-key publicity it gave to a recent decision that is historical by comparison.

Just this past week it was uncovered that CIMA has slapped a record CI\$4.2 million fine on the law firm Intertrust.

On that matter, CIMA said, "The administrative fines were imposed for the company's pervasive and protracted history of non-compliance with the requirements of the anti-money laundering regulations and its failure to remediate these significant breaches."

In listing a series of violations by Intertrust, the agency said these were uncovered during on-site inspections and that similar failings were also discovered during previous inspections.

Intertrust has said it will appeal the ruling arguing that the findings were historical and it was already working with the CIMA to address the areas of concern.

CIMA says this case highlights the importance of companies having in place effective policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the jurisdictions international obligations.

The agency says it is committed to enhancing the Cayman Islands regime against money laundering, financing of terrorism and will continue to exercise vigilance and "will take the appropriate and other actions where necessary".

However, with the ruling against Intertrust only posted on CIMA's website, some industry experts have questioned why a fine of this magnitude by the agency which has oversight for the jurisdiction's lucrative financial sector was not given further publicity.

To date, there has not been any comment from either the Government or the Opposition, especially given the scale of the fine and the issues surrounding it.

Cayman has been under increasing pressure over how it regulates the finan-



cial services industry here and is currently on an EU 'grey list' for what global regulators claim are compliance shortcomings.

The jurisdiction was blacklisted in 2020 along with what the EU along called 'non-cooperative jurisdictions in tax matters. However, following several legislative updates and direct lobbying, Cayman was removed from the blacklist but placed on the grey list.

Cayman's important financial services sector has been keeping the economy afloat during the pandemic.

The persistent global scrutiny was a top issue during the recent election campaign with candidates generally expressing the view that the pressure on Cayman was unfair.

There was agreement that the jurisdiction also needed to be more proactive in defending its processes and tackling what were seen as misperceptions about the industry here.

POLICE NEWS

Police Investigates Aggravated Burglary in George Town

Just after 9:50PM on Tuesday 11 May, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a report of an aggravated burglary at a residence located on Anthony Drive in George Town.

It was reported that two masked men dressed in black clothing and brandishing handguns, entered the residence, demanded money and assaulted the resident of the address. The men fled the location

prior to the police being called. The injured man was transported to the hospital for treatment. Nothing was stolen from the location and no other injuries were reported to the police as a result of this incident.

The matter is being investigated by the police and detectives are encouraging anyone with information to call the **George Town Police Station at 949-4222**.

Police Investigate Fatal Collision in Cayman Brac

Just after 5:27PM on Friday 14 May, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a location on West End Road - East, in Cayman Brac, where it was reported that a single-vehicle collision had occurred.

The driver of the vehicle involved in the collision, a 36-year-old man of Cayman Brac, was transported to the Faith Memorial Hospital by ambulance where he was later pronounced dead.

The Traffic and Roads Policing Unit are investigating this fatal collision and encourages anyone with information to call the Cayman Brac Police Station at 948-0331 or



the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit at 649-6254. Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website <http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip>.

Man Arrested for Possession of Cocaine with Intent & Other Drug Offenses

On Friday, 7 May, officers conducted a search of a residence on School Road in George Town, under the Misuse of Drugs Act. During the course of the search, officers recovered a quantity of ganja, a quantity of cocaine, and drug utensils.

The next day, a male residing at the location, age 24 of George Town, turned



himself in to police and was arrested on suspicion of drug-related offenses, including possession of ganja with

intent to supply, and possession of cocaine with intent to supply. He has been granted bail as investigations continue.

Robbery in George Town

On Monday 10 May, officers received a report of a robbery which had taken place at about 3:00AM the same morning on Martin Drive in George Town. It was reported that a man had been sitting in his car outside a bar when two other men approached and entered his vehicle. One of the males brandished a knife and robbed the man of cash and personal items. The men then directed the victim to drive to another location near the Strand before one of the men exited. A struggle then ensued between the victim and the second man, and the victim was able to remove the man from the vehicle and drive off. The victim was not injured during the incident.

One of the suspects is described as being about 43 years old, about 5'4" tall and of brown complexion, with low cut hair. He was wearing a dark t-shirt and long jeans pants. The other suspect is described as being in his 30s, about 5'11" tall, of clear complexion and with long hair in a ponytail. He was wearing a white t-shirt and black shorts.

The matter is currently under investigation by George Town CID. Anyone with any information is asked to contact 949-4222.

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

New show of artistic talent with social conscience

Tiffany Polloni is a bright talent who is about to showcase her artistic endeavours at her first solo show to be held at Mojo (otherwise known as Central Terrace), the gastropub located upstairs from Kirk Freeport in Bayshore Mall. Tiffany says she is incredibly excited to be exhibiting her paintings in the show, which is called 'Lookya'.

Demonstrating a passionate social conscience, Tiffany uses art to express her thoughts on current issues which, she said, demanded attention.

"I feel a strong responsibility to address some of our Caymanian societal woes as of late," she said. "I believe in speaking out when an injustice takes place. Those who

know me well, know that I can be quite outspoken and my recent work is giving me another voice."

Tiffany said she was not afraid of rocking the boat a little, and the past year, leading up to the recent elections, highlighted so much in Cayman's small society, that some boat rocking had been warranted, she confirmed.

No stranger to exhibiting her art along with others, Tiffany has had her works in several local exhibitions before this solo show under the moniker of 'Ethel and Charlie', which is a dedication to her Cayman Brac grandparents and their love of all things Caymanian.

Lookya is a collection of 11 original watercolours, thematically covering a range of current affairs with an overarching undercurrent of female empowerment, she said.

Brigita Nemet is the proprietor of Mojo, which has recently converted some of its space to show artworks for two other exhibitions.

"Central Terrace's ethos is to connect people through art, music, sustainable living and food. We have represented all these aspects since we opened seven years ago," Brigita said. "I am so very happy that this such a great space to socialise, for people from all walks of life to get together."

Brigita said she felt Tiffany's work has such an urgency in its message and, although overtly stated, it was handled delicately.

"Her choice of medium helps with that," she stated.

Co-curator for the show, Kerwin G. Ebanks, said: "As a self-taught painter her saturated palette is reminiscent of Janet Walker and Joanne Sibley's watercolours; she handles that and penwork with sensibilities much like Debbie Van Der Bol. She has little gems throughout her works that you have to see in person to truly appreciate."

Admission to view Lookya is free to the public Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 10pm. The public is also encouraged to meet the artist and enjoy complimentary bubbles at 5pm on Saturday 22nd May.



► Tiffany Polloni



HSA launches green initiatives to save an estimated \$300,000 per year

Health Services Authority (HSA) has launched energy efficiency initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint, lower utility costs at the Cayman Islands Hospital by an estimated \$360,000 and become a corporate leader in environmental sustainability in the Cayman Islands.

Through a series of capital investments and initiatives to be implemented this year, the Authority hopes to save more than 20% in energy costs. These included replacement of ageing windows across the facility to more energy efficient thermal windows, installation of a 200KW solar photovoltaic system, acquisition of four modern, technologically advanced chillers, a new wastewater treatment plant, replacing all lighting to LED, and introduction of a hospital wide recycling programme.

"The Cayman Islands Hospital has significant space on the roof which will be used for the generation of clean energy and serve as a back-up power supply in the event of sustained interruption to the grid supply", said HSA Chief Executive Officer, Lizzette Yearwood. "We are implementing major upgrades to our facility to make it more energy efficient, which signifies our commitment to be fiscally responsible and good stewards of the environment."

"While the environmental benefits are important, the upgrades will ultimately provide a better experience for our patients," said Ms. Yearwood.

New windows will be installed throughout the campus, with priority being in patient care areas which will improve thermal protection, hurricane resiliency, and overall aesthetics.

A 12% reduction in energy consumption was realised following the replacement of two chillers in 2019, upgrading the remaining four is expected to show a marked reduction in the energy requirements to air-condition the main campus.

"The Board's commitment to sustainable operations is part of HSA's strategic initiative towards clean energy and overall efficiency improvements," said HSA Board Chairman, Jonathan Tibbetts. "These fit within our current facility modernization programme which will improve the overall patient experience at all HSA facilities and ensure healthcare remains affordable and accessible."

"Alongside the environmental benefits the works will bring for the HSA, local businesses are also anticipated to benefit in the construction and implementation phase of the project, helping to boost the local economy," Mr Tibbetts added.



► New chiller replacements at the Cayman Islands Hospital



► Guests dress the part and have fun at the live auction



► Friends gather to support the Orange You Glad Gala and have a fun night!

8th Annual Orange You Glad Sunset Gala

It's time to grab your best orange attire, that little black dress, orange bowtie or orange accessories for the 8th Annual Meals on Wheels Orange You Glad (OYG) Sunset Gala, to be held on May 22, 2021 at the historic Grand Old House, South Church Street. The OYG Gala has become a much-anticipated event on Cayman's social calendar and is the largest annual Meals on Wheels fundraiser. As is customary, the night will offer a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues, family and friends while enjoying a gourmet dinner, live entertainment, dancing, door prizes and spectacular auction prizes. After taking a walk down the Orange Carpet, attendees will be entered in our secret door prize raffle, then enjoy cocktails and canapes as they watch the sunset on the horizon while listening to the talented John Gray High School String Ensemble.

A gourmet 3 course dinner will be served while guests indulge in an exciting Live Auction that includes "must have items" such as a 2-night staycation package at the luxurious Rum Point Club Residence in a 3-bedroom ocean front villa, personal chef experience, unlimited yoga for 1 year at Cayman Yoga Club, sunset sail for 15 with BlueSky Sailing, dazzling jewelry, original works of art and much more.

Another feature this year will be the Dine and Dash Wall, where attendees can donate \$25, \$50 or \$100, will receive a Gift Certificate for equal value to an array of Cayman's top local restaurants.

The OYG Gala provides an opportunity for Meals on Wheels to highlight the incredible work that is done through their non-profit organization which delivers an average of 6,400 meals each month to seniors, homebound, infirm, and disabled individuals throughout our community. Meals are delivered by a dedicated group of over 100 volunteers who deliver a daily hot meal, hearty soup, and a warm smile. This nutrition and visit inspire and encourages wellbeing and prevents isolation, which can lead to depression among other illnesses.

MOW provides daily, hot, nutritious meals & hearty soups to seniors, homebound and disabled persons throughout Grand Cayman. Meals are provided free of cost to the clients and delivered to



► Meals on Wheels Board of Directors at the 2020 Orange You Glad Dinner



► Guests are encouraged to wear Orange, but it is not required

their homes, 52 weeks per year. Meals are prepared in 4 community kitchens and delivered to over 300 persons each weekday in all 5 districts - referrals continue to be made daily for more seniors in need.

This year's event is made possible by our platinum sponsor Dolphin Point Club, along with Ogier, McAlpine, Calderwood

and Health City Cayman Islands & Radio Cayman, who are committed to helping us fulfill our missions of ending senior hunger in the Cayman Islands.

So, ladies, get yourselves all dolled up and, gentlemen, shine your shoes, it's time to have an amazing night out! Tickets are \$200 per person and tables for any size group can be reserved. Book your tables

today by emailing info@mealsonwheels.ky, call 769-1974 or tickets may be purchased from the Meals on Wheels office located at Trafalgar Place, 1428 West Bay Road.

If you are interested in learning more about how to donate, volunteer or refer a senior, follow us on social media or visit our website at www.mealsonwheels.ky.

MAY 22

CAYMAN ISLANDS MEALS ON WHEELS

8TH ANNUAL

Orange You Glad

SUNSET GALA

GRAND OLD HOUSE
6:00PM - CANAPES & COCKTAILS
7:00PM - 3 COURSE DINNER

SEATING AVAILABLE FOR ANY SIZE GROUP

RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY!

CALL: 769-1974 OR
EMAIL: INFO@MEALSONWHEELS.KY

Fundraising event to help fulfill our mission of ending senior, hunger by providing a daily hot meal, hearty soup and a warm smile to seniors in need!

CAYMAN ISLANDS MEALS ON WHEELS

Orange You Glad

SUNSET GALA

MAY 22

SEATING AVAILABLE FOR ANY SIZE GROUP

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

CALL: 769-1974 OR
EMAIL: INFO@MEALSONWHEELS.KY

CANAPES & A 3-COURSE GOURMET MEAL
SILENT AUCTION & LIVE AUCTION
DINE & DASH VOUCHERS
RAFFLE PRIZES
PHOTO BOOTH
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
AND MORE!

ORANGE ATTIRE IS ENCOURAGED!

INTERVIEW FAIR: JUNE 2021



Caymanian and status holders are invited to participate in an exciting interview fair at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman, as part of a comprehensive recruitment initiative. Positions range from entry-level to highly-skilled in stewarding, housekeeping, food & beverage, front desk and more.

Tuesday, June 1st from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 5th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Cayman Islands Royal Ballroom

**Interviews are by appointment only.*

Event and application details:

- Must be Caymanian or status holder through permanent residency with employment rights.
 - Applications must be submitted at the link below by **May 26th, 2021.**
 - An active email address is required to apply.
 - Interview will be scheduled through Human Resources.

VISIT [RITZCARLTONJOBS.KY](https://ritzcarltonjobs.ky) TO APPLY TODAY



THE RITZ-CARLTON

GRAND CAYMAN

CHALLENGING TIMES AHEAD FOR CAYMAN, OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS

Cayman is faced with many challenges as it looks towards reopening its borders.

That assessment by Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Roy McTaggart, came as his Progressives/Independents Alliance held their first post-election press conference.

"As we've said continuously throughout the campaign and for many months, the remainder of this year would be particularly critical for the Cayman Islands, because we face a number of national issues that threaten aspects of our country."

The former Minister of Finance and Economic Development listed the state of the tourism sector and continuing pressure on the financial services sector alongside the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat of emerging variants as key areas of concern.

"Tourism is not going to return to the levels it was at the end of 2019. It is going to be a process of rebuilding and that's going to take, in my mind, several years to accomplish," Mr McTaggart estimates.

Turning to the financial services sector, which has been stabilising the economy through the pandemic to date, he reminded of the continuing global pressures.

"Those issues and pressures continue to be evident on the Cayman Islands, particularly the government of the day, whoever it is," Mr McTaggart stated.

"That's a big issue that has to be dealt with if we don't negotiate, and we aren't able to achieve the right outcomes in any discussion with the EU or the FATF.

"It could have a very, very detrimental effect on the industry, and on the country as a whole," he warned.

"When you look at something like financial services that represents 50 per cent in round terms of this country's economy, if you get that affected in any significant way the financial pressures on the country are magnified."

Against that background, the Progressives leader said, "I think this year is critical for us, and we just need to navigate in a very thoughtful, and well-planned man-

ner, and make sure that we've got the right expertise to help us to remedy the situation."

He said that while the Opposition will be robust it will also offer suggestions to the government and hoped to work together in the interest of the Cayman Islands.

"We take our role as the Opposition very seriously, and commit to serving the people of these islands as a check on the government. We will be fair, but robust, supporting the government and the policies and projects that we believe are in the best interests of our people and the country with challenging those that we do not believe to be the country's best interest."

The PPM/Alliance established a shadow cabinet in which it has assigned specific roles to its Opposition members to shadow and monitor the policies and performance of each ministry in the government.

In the face of the continuing economic downturn, Opposition Leader McTaggart has called on the new PACT (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent) coalition of Independents to alleviate the burden on residents.

He suggested increasing the current pandemic unemployment stipend for tourism workers to CI\$2,000.

"Happily, the government has confirmed that they will now keep the CI\$1,500 stipend to tourism workers in place," he observed.

"The government should be considering increasing this to \$2,000 as soon as they're able to do this."

Reporting on the state of the government's finances it had inherited, the PACT administration concluded that it was stable and had withstood the impact of the pandemic up to this point.

Mr McTaggart, who was finance minister from 2017 to 2021, said that was due to stewardship of the previous Progressives-led government.

"The country's finances are in a very good place with substantial reserves and

an exceedingly low debt to GDP ratio. This speaks extremely well to how successfully the Progressives-led coalition government, guided the country through the pandemic," the former finance minister claimed.

"Under excellent stewardship of the economy, and government finances over two consecutive terms, including the stimulus measures in the early days of the lockdown, this is what has allowed us and is still continuing to allow us to keep the borders closed, so as to keep the virus out, and also provide assistance to our people," he added.

However, with the COVID-19 pandemic still a clear and present danger, Mr McTaggart is urging residents to get vaccinated as it's critical to the eventual reopening of the borders and the wider economy.

"We in the opposition were heartened to hear that the government intends to follow, at least for the time view, the sensible border reopening policies that we established when we were in government," he stated.

"We believe, and I suspect that the Chief Medical Officer might support us in this, that we need to have 75 to 80 per cent of people fully vaccinated before any widespread border opening takes place." "Certainly, 80 per cent is preferred," the Opposition Leader opined.

New Premier Wayne Panton has suggested a preference for a 70 per cent rate saying that the previous 80 per cent target of the previous administration was unrealistic under the circumstances.

However, recent pronouncements from within the PACT cabinet attributed to Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan have promoted the 80 per cent vaccination target for reopening the borders.

"The concern we have is in the new strains of the virus that we see developing in different parts of the world, and we need to tread carefully, so that we avoid



► Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Roy McTaggart

the pitfalls that have occurred in other places that have had to reintroduce lockdowns, and social distancing," Mr McTaggart advised.

Saying "we should watch carefully what the government does going forward," the Progressives leader added: "I do applaud the Premier for convincing his ministers who have not been vaccinated, to go ahead and do so. It is important that leaders lead by example."

That was a reference to the recent vaccination drive mounted by the new administration in the face of mounting concern that uptake had slowed and the large quantities of the current batch of vaccines were at risk of being dumped as they expire at the end of June.

Mr McTaggart again implored the public to get vaccinated for the personal and the greater good.

"We cannot allow these vaccinations to go to waste while so many in the world cannot even get access to (the drugs)," he said.

(Caymanian Times will have more from the Progressives-Alliance post-election press conference)



MAPLES GROUP SEEKS JUDICIAL REVIEW OF FINANCIAL SECTOR REGULATION

The financial services conglomerate, Maples Group, is taking the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) to court over how the jurisdiction's financial services sector is regulated.

In a press release, the company says two entities within the Maples Group are seeking Judicial Review of CIMA's interpretation and application of certain provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations.

The Maples Group said it fully supports CIMA's regulatory initiatives to protect and enhance the integrity of the financial services industry of the Cayman Islands, and had requested that CIMA address their concerns through its formal private complaints procedure.

Regrettably, it said, CIMA declined that request, leaving Judicial Review as the

only means to obtain clarification on the relevant points of law.

The specific concerns of the company were not outlined in the press statement but it is believed that they pertain to issues of how the financial services sector is regulated and particular matters regarding compliance.

According to the Maples Group, the regulatory and oversight agency has changed its approach to the application of certain provisions of the anti-money laundering regulations (AMLRs) without providing prior notice, consulting with industry stakeholders or issuing updated guidance notes.

It argues that obtaining the court's ruling is therefore crucial to ensure that all financial service providers in the jurisdiction understand the standards to comply with the AMLRs, and that these standards

are uniformly adhered to by all industry stakeholders.

Maples says the Judicial Review will focus on CIMA's decision to impose obligations on two of its subsidiaries - Maples FS Limited and Maples Corporate Services Limited - which it claims are not required under the AMLRs and in any event are disproportionate in the context of the particular services that MaplesFS Limited and Maples Corporate Services Limited provide.

"Should CIMA's interpretation of the AMLRs be permitted to prevail, this would be contrary to the risk-based approach to client due diligence set out clearly in the AMLRs, and the internationally recognised standards upon which the AMLRs are based," the company says.

It further states that it "welcomes the outcome of the Judicial Review, which will



provide the necessary certainty and will benefit the regulated community within the Cayman Islands and their clients."

The Maples Group describes its operation in the Cayman Islands as providing "comprehensive legal advice on the laws of the Cayman Islands" and that it also provides "specialised fund, fiduciary, regulatory and compliance, and entity formation and management services."

Harneys articulated clerk programme sees another successful graduate

Harneys is delighted to announce that Natasja Levy has completed her Articles of Clerkship and has been admitted as an attorney of the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands. We are equally excited to announce that Natasja has chosen to join our corporate practice as an associate.

With more than 10 years' experience in Human Resources within the public and private sector, Natasja was not the average article clerk. Prior to embarking on a career in law, Natasja had already obtained a bachelor's degree from The International College of the Cayman Islands and a masters degree in Business Administration from Rivier College. Natasja completed her law degree at Truman Bodden

Law School followed by her post-graduate diploma in legal studies with distinction from Oxford Brookes University.

Natasja commented: "The firm sought to embrace my strengths while creating opportunities for me to develop new skills. I am delighted to be joining a firm where uniqueness and individuality matter and one that has cultivated an environment that will support my continued growth and advancement."

Harneys' articulated clerk programme is designed to ensure a varied yet structured training experience, with an emphasis not just on technical training, but also on the soft skills that are relevant to legal practice in Cayman and in the broader offshore context.

Cayman Managing Partner, Nick Hoffman, commented: "We are dedicated to a professional development programme that allows Caymanians to start their career with a full breadth of practical legal experience. We congratulate Natasja on successfully completing the programme, and we look forward to nurturing and developing her career here at Harneys."

Harneys is committed to providing opportunities to Caymanians beginning their careers in law; those interested in internship, legal scholarship or articles of clerkship are asked to visit harneys.com/careers/students-and-graduates/cayman-islands or contact CAYHRTeam@harneys.com.



CUC celebrates 55 years of operations with Business After Hours event

Members of the business community and well-wishers, members of the Board of Directors of Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) and its employees joined the Chamber of Commerce in hosting a Business After Hours event on Tuesday, May 11 at the Caribbean Plaza on West Bay Road.

The event, attended by over 100 persons, was held to celebrate CUC's 55th anniversary of operations in the Cayman Islands. The Company began operations in Grand Cayman on May 10, 1966.

CUC's President and CEO, Mr. Richard Hew, who has been with the Company for 33 of the 55 years, spoke of the challenges of providing electricity in the early days and the journey to the current operations. He also shared his

vision for the Company over the next few years.

He stressed the Company's commitment to continue identifying and training young female Caymanians in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) careers available at CUC.

Mr. Hew also stated that CUC's goal is to adopt more renewable sources of energy and reduce CO2 emissions while maintaining high standards of safety and reliability. He added, "The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for electricity supply in Grand Cayman was prepared by energy experts retained by CUC and included three rounds of public consultation. The IRP was completed in August 2017 and



► CUC's President & CEO Mr. Richard Hew addresses the audience

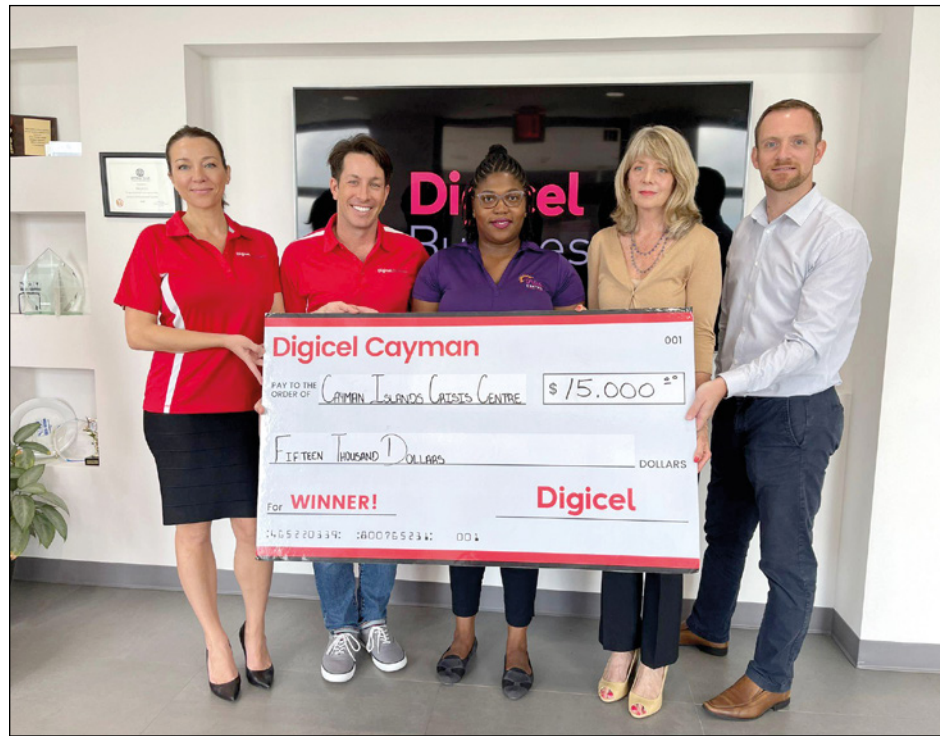
Digicel Business raises \$15,000.00 for Cayman Islands Crisis Centre

The annual Digicel Business golf day was an enjoyable event for all the 80 golfers who attended the event. This spectacular golf experience, held at North Sound Golf Club, was fun-filled and wildly successful. The event raised CI\$15,000.00 and all proceeds have been donated to the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre.

"Digicel Business is proud to support the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre," said Mark Mimmagh

Head of Business Sales. "It was such a great day and the event featured a large variety of sponsors and players which made for a successful day all around. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors once again, we are indeed better together."

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre provides safe shelter and hope for a life free from violence to women and their children since 2003. The Crisis Centre believes that domestic violence is a crime, whether the victim is a man, a woman or a child. They are looking to end the cycle of family violence in Cayman forever, through protecting and supporting women, men, parents – and equally important – children.



► Digicel Cayman Crisis Centre Donation. (L-R) Jennifer Ebanks, Patrick Bourque, Mariasha Spencer, Diana McAuliffe, Mark Kearney

Diane McAuliffe, Chief Executive Officer for Digicel said, "We applaud the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre for all the work they do to provide safe shelter and hope for

families, men, women & children experiencing domestic hardships. We are proud to contribute to this cause and we thank our all our sponsors who donated so much to the event as well The Crisis Centre... a terrific example of Cayman Community Care."

The Digicel golf day event featured day sponsorships from Tortuga Rum Company, Salt Technology Group, Trac Automotive, Five Continents Financial, Sotheby's International Realty and Walkers as well notable individual contributions from Conor O'Dea and Diane McAuliffe. Rounding up these contributions were monetary donations and raffle prizes donated by over 40 Digicel Partners which resulted in a lot of happy winners on the day.

Cayman Islands Crisis Centre Executive Director, Ania Milanowska said "We are very grateful to Digicel for choosing us to be the beneficiary of their golf tournament this year. They have been a great supporter of CICC, providing complimentary Kids Helpline and other services to us. This financial support is greatly appreciated and we would like to thank Digicel for taking a stand against domestic violence."

CUC celebrates 55 years of operations with Business After Hours event

CONTINUED FROM Page 12

is a roadmap to meet the Paris Climate Accord targets of 60% reduction of CO2 emissions by the year 2030. There are a number of projects which we hope to implement within the next few years including the 20 megawatt (MW) spinning reserve battery project and a 20MW solar plus battery storage."

In his opening remarks, President of the Chamber Mr. Mike Gibbs stated that, "It can certainly be said that one of the main reasons for the Cayman Islands' overall economic success and quality of life can be attributed to the regular investment and reliability of the electrical and distribution systems that have been installed and upgraded over the

years to meet Grand Cayman's power needs. We should never take the reliability of our power supply for granted. It is part of our island's infrastructure backbone that makes virtually everything we do in our homes and businesses possible."

Chamber of Commerce CEO Mr. Wil Pineau provided a short history lesson

about CUC over the past 55 years and lauded the Company for its contributions to the economy and the local community and spoke to the long-term partnership between CUC and the Chamber. CUC has been a member since 1986.

Attendees were also given the chance to win giveaways and prizes throughout the night by answering trivia about the Company. Prizes included gift bags, CUC gift certificates and a business card raffle draw for a weekend for two at The Westin Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa.

Aster Cayman Medcity Planned Area Development Application Gains Approval from the Central Planning Authority

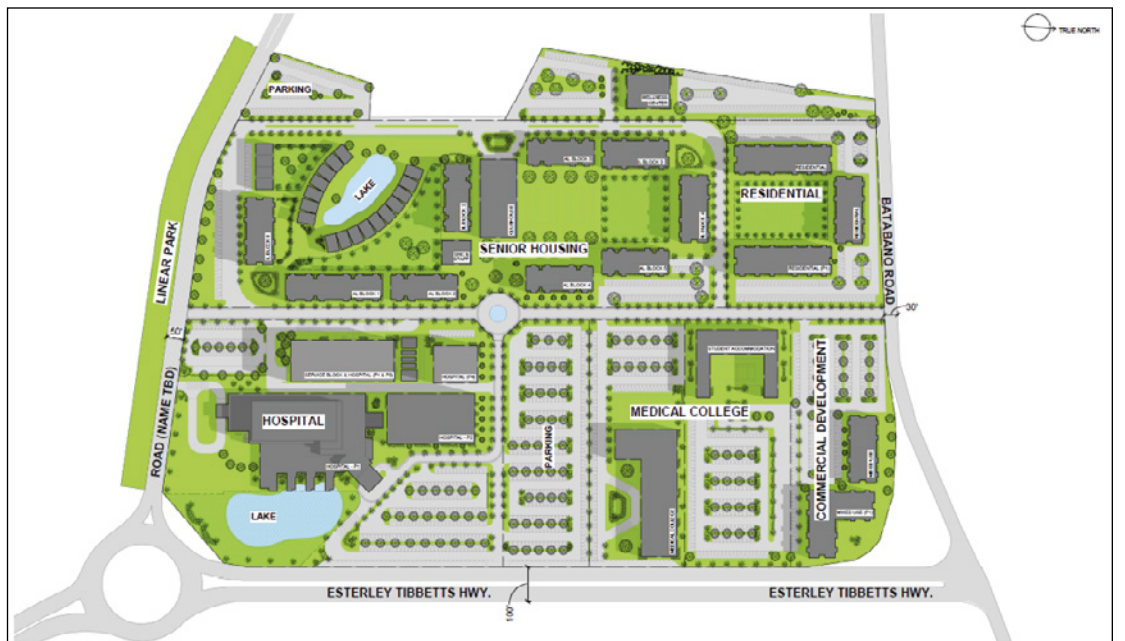
On Friday, Aster Caribbean Holdings was delighted to have learned that their application for a Planned Area Development in West Bay had been approved by the Central Planning Authority, following its meeting on 12th May 2021.

Aster had submitted an application for a Planned Area Development, a master plan for Aster Cayman Medcity detailing how the 40-acre site bordered by Esterley Tibbetts Highway and Batabano Road would be used, a first stage in the planning process for a development of this scale. Aster were invited to the meeting and presented a comprehensive overview of the project, including site usage, phas-

ing and the design principles to be adopted.

Gene Thompson, Local Project Director for Aster Cayman Medcity, commented on the CPA decision, "We are obviously pleased to hear that our application has been successful. This confirmation covers the decision of the approval of the application. We now await the official written notice. This is an important milestone, allowing us to proceed with obtaining the necessary permissions to commence site works, but more importantly representing a move forward for our multiphase project."

Aster confirms that it will issue a further, more comprehensive press release when official notice is received.



CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Grenada fears rapid virus spread

Grenada is about to extend its state of emergency to contain and control the spread of COVID-19 from July 14 until November. Grenada has recorded 161 COVID-19 positive cases since the first person was diagnosed in March 2020. The figure is relatively low but has still alarmed authorities because if unchecked it can spread rapidly.

The House of Representatives, where the ruling New National Party occupies all the seats, will meet on Friday when the extension is expected to be approved.

Under the present state of emergency there is a midnight to 4am curfew, the mandatory wearing of face masks or face coverings in public, closure of all businesses by 10pm, a maximum of 20 people allowed at weddings and funerals and no social gatherings without permission.



► Grenada is fighting to control its virus spread

Violators of the Emergency Powers regulations can be fined a maximum of EC\$1,000 (US\$370) or 12 months' imprisonment; violators of the quarantine regulations can be fined a maximum of EC\$25,000 (US\$9,253) or six months in prison while the maximum penalty under the Public Health Act is a fine not exceeding EC\$500 (US\$185) and imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months.

Barbados added to fraud list

Barbados has joined the Cayman Islands and Jamaica on the list of Caribbean islands by the United Kingdom where money laundering and terrorist financing is high risk.

This comes even as UK officials acknowledged that authorities in Bridgetown have made efforts in recent few years to strengthen anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism regimes.

Completing the full list of 21 countries are Albania, Burkina Faso, Botswana, Cambodia, Korea, Ghana, Iran, Mauritius, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Panama, Senegal, Syria, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.



► Bridgetown is trying to adhere to financial protocols

Caribbean event report positive signs

Caribbean destinations heavily reliant on tourism are reporting steadily growing visitor arrivals as hotels reopen, flight services resume and expand and the resumption of cruise activity and new homeport agreements are confirmed.

Government and tourism officials gathering for last week's Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association's Virtual Marketplace event outlined the progress regional destinations have made to balance the resumption of the health and safety of residents and visitors with the need to resume crucial tourism activity.

Most officials reported positive results of traveller protocols and safeguards, as well as the prospects for continuing visitor growth as vaccinations increase among travellers as well as in Caribbean communities.

Jamaica is projecting welcoming 1.4 million combined land-based and cruise ship visitors in 2021. While this is a fraction of the record 4.3m visitors in 2019, it exceeds the 1.3m for its 170,000 tourism and hospitality workers.

"Across the world, consumers are ready to travel again," said Joy Jibrilu, director general of The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism & Aviation.



► Caribbean tourists are gradually returning

"Our insights indicate there is a huge interest in Caribbean travel and specifically in travel to The Bahamas."

"We have gradually seen visitors coming back to our shores," said May Ling Chung, St. Maarten's director of tourism.

"We are very fortunate to have most of our carriers return. We also have some new flights and new airlines."

"Demand for the Turks & Caicos is up and we are grateful for that," said Elisha Jennings, senior public relations officer for the Turks & Caicos Tourist Board. American Airlines will launch new nonstop flights from New York's JFK International Airport in June. JetBlue recently added new Turks & Caicos flights from Newark.

Antigua, Barbados, St. Lucia, Guyana and many other English speaking Caribbean destinations are reporting positive tourism trends too.

Jamaica shifts into electric gear

Jamaica has launched its first public electric vehicle charging station.

The public charging station installed by the Jamaica Public Service utility is located at Drax Hall, St. Ann on the north coast. Dubbed JPS Charge 'N Go, it features chargers with different specifications to cater to three different vehicle requirements.

Five more chargers are planned this year in Kingston and Montego Bay, as well as in other urban centres. "The new electric mobility ecosystem is about all of Jamaica," said JPS President and CEO Michel Gantois. "With this electric mobility ecosystem, we want to create internship opportunities for students and training opportu-



► Jamaica is embracing the electric vehicle trend

nities for technicians and mechanics to service EVs."

With support from the Inter-American Development Bank, Jamaica is due to introduce 200 EVs and to train 400 individuals in maintenance and safety practices. In addition, the development of new EV related business models will be supported.

Red tape lifting for entrepreneurs

Obstacles to entrepreneurship in the Caribbean are rapidly disappearing as the economies in the region continue to implement business-friendly reforms. These reforms are improving the speed of getting a business started. Governments in the region are bent on streamlining every process.

According to the World Bank, Puerto Rico and Jamaica have made the most reforms, but the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, and the Dominican Republic have taken huge steps to remove cumbersome regulations that hinder economic growth.

Jamaica's GraceKennedy Limited is a shining example of one company that has diversified into a manufacturer of consumer products. Cave Shepherd and Co. Limited is a retail store partnership started in Barbados in 1906. Today, the company has also diversified its operations



► Trinidad's ANSA McAL Group has evolved superbly

into property development, tourism, and financial services.

One of the most diversified conglomerates in the region is the ANSA McAL Group of Companies founded in Trinidad in 1881. Besides financial services and retail, the company is a media and manufacturing group.

Big fight planned for desert heat

Tyson Fury versus Anthony Joshua will be the biggest fight this year and a date has finally been set although the venue and final details are still to be confirmed. The pair are set to contest all four world heavyweight titles in a highly-anticipated bout this summer.

Saudi authorities want overseas fans to be able to attend the big fight on Aug. 14, said promoter Eddie Hearn. While the fight is not officially confirmed, only administrative tasks remain.

"The Saudi plan is to allow international travellers," said Hearn. "Pandemic permitting, I'd like to think by August you'd have the ability to travel to Saudi for this fight. They may have precautions in place,



► Tyson Fury finally gets his wish to face Joshua

whether that's vaccine related or testing - I'm sure all countries will adopt different policies worldwide. But their aim is to attract overseas travellers."

The date earmarked for the fight means Joshua, 31, should have trainer Rob McCracken in his corner. McCracken heads up GB Boxing and is expected to be at the Olympics until the Games ends on Aug. 8.

Hearn said Saudi organisers are eyeing capital city Riyadh or Jeddah to host and that they intend to build an outdoor arena - as they did for Joshua's rematch win over Andy Ruiz Jr in December 2019.

The team behind the event in Saudi have reportedly put forward \$150m

for the right to host. The fighters will then split more when pay-per-view revenues are added in.

"They want to build a stadium," said Hearn. "It's 24 degrees at 11pm at night in August, which is not horrendous. They want to make it a spectacle.

"We've worked with these people before. It was extremely successful. They delivered on all their promises. These deals take a lot of time to go through. There is a lot of paperwork, financial information and Escrow accounts you have to go through. When that process has been done before it makes it a lot easier."

Meanwhile, Floyd Mayweather's spectacular showdown with social media sensation Logan Paul was confirmed for the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens on June 6.

The five-weight world champion collides with Paul in an epic exhibition bout that features a stellar undercard, including a world title rematch between Jean Pascal and Badou Jack, while former unified world champion Jarrett Hurd also returns against Luis Arias.

Mayweather, 44, who dominated the sport for years while compiling a perfect 50-0 record, will showcase his sublime skills against Paul, a YouTube star with



► Anthony Joshua is staying low-key and training hard for the big fight

over 20 million subscribers. Paul stands six inches taller than Mayweather, with an 18-year age advantage, but he will be sharing the ring with a Hall of Fame fighter who was recognised as the sport's pound-for-pound No 1. Mayweather is so confident of victory, he even offered to take on Paul's antagonistic broke, Jake, on the same night. At the press conference to announce the fight last week, Jake grabbed Money's baseball cap which infuriated Mayweather who is expecting to earn at least \$10 million.



► Floyd Mayweather expects an easy - and lucrative - night's work

Jamaican diver heads to Tokyo

A Jamaican diver is heading to the Olympic Games in Tokyo this summer after he qualified last week.

Yona Knight-Wisdom, 26, qualified after finishing 12th in the 3 metres springboard at the FINA 2021 FINA Diving World Cup that concluded in Tokyo. He was born in Leeds, UK but through his Jamaican father, Trevor, he competes for them. Yona competed at the last Olympics, in Brazil, for Jamaica, the first Caribbean diver to reach an Olympic Games.

Knight-Wisdom scored 383.70 points in the finals of the competition that was won by Germany's Martin Wolfram who scored 467.75 points.

Despite not coming close to a medal in Japan, Knight-Wisdom said he is proud of his achievement and praised both his coach Jen Leeming and Great Britain's James Heatly.

"As proud as I am for what I've done this week, I definitely can't take full credit," he



► Yona Knight-Wisdom is going to his second Olympics

said on Instagram. "What @coachleeming has done for my diving and for our entire squad at home over the past 12 months through the lockdowns and setbacks, is nothing short of heroic.

"Thanks so much for helping me rediscover how to dive with confidence even at times when my belief wavered, your belief and energy kept me accountable every day."

Kobe's widow accepts his Hall of Fame

Kobe Bryant has been posthumously inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

The five-time NBA champion died, aged 41, in a helicopter crash in January 2020 alongside his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and seven others. He was presented at the ceremony in Connecticut by NBA great Michael Jordan and his widow, Vanessa, accepted his induction on his behalf.

She said: "You did it, you're in the Hall of Fame now. You're a true champ. You're not just an MVP, you are an all-time great. I'm so proud of you. I love you forever and always, Kobe Bean Bryant."

Los Angeles Lakers great Bryant retired in 2016; he was the NBA Most Valuable Player in 2008, was Finals MVP twice and earned 18 All-Star selections. He was in the United States team that won Olympic gold in 2008 and 2012.



► Kobe Bryant left a huge legacy

The 2020 Hall of Fame enshrinement ceremony was delayed by a year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Tim Duncan, a five-time NBA champion with the San Antonio Spurs, and Kevin Garnett, who helped the Boston Celtics win the championship in 2008, were among the other inductees.

West Indies summer schedule is packed

West Indies are in for a hectic itinerary this summer, with South Africa, Australia and Pakistan scheduled to play myriad Tests, One-Day Internationals and Twenty20 Internationals across five countries in the space of three months.

South Africa will arrive in June for two Tests in St Lucia, starting on June 10, and five T20 Internationals in Grenada, commencing the schedule which will mark one of the busiest domestic programmes in recent memory.

In July, Australia will then engage the Windies in five T20Is in St Lucia and three ODIs in Barbados, which will then host the first two T20Is of the five-match series against Pakistan, with Guyana staging the last three.

Jamaica then hosts the international schedule with two Tests against Pakistan in August.

The tours will take place in the now-customary bio-secure bubble amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, and CWI chief executive Johnny Grave

described the undertaking as "enormous".

"Following the successful hosting of the all-format series against Sri Lanka earlier this year, we are delighted to announce that we are set to welcome South Africa, Australia and Pakistan to the West Indies," the Englishman said. "To host three international teams back-to-back in five territories is unprecedented, and putting these fixtures together was an enormous, COVID-related logistical challenge.



► West Indies play three countries at home this summer

TCaymanian **Times**



BACK *on Track*

3 DAYS PER WEEK
Monday • Wednesday • Friday

**Available at Supermarkets, Gas Stations &
Pharmacies**

Only 50 cents

**Complimentary Copies available at
Government Offices, Hospitals and Clinics**
Cayman Still needs a daily newspaper



*Low rates and a
friendly smile*

Contact 916 2000

or email

sales@caymaniantimes.ky