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Reopen Cayman welcomes Government's decision

# Cayman reopens November 20th



## Dart statement on rights of way court hearing

Camana Bay's masterplan included underpasses at West Bay Road and the Esterley Tibbetts Highway to facilitate sea to sound connectivity, with pedestrians crossing safely over the road and vehicular traffic flowing freely underneath.

When Dart applied for planning permission for the West Bay Road underpass, the Central Planning Authority approved an application to relocate and consolidate the two existing public accesses impacted by the new underpass, for the creation of a new consolidated 12-foot public right of way to the beach along the southern boundary of the Royal Palms property. Dart also expanded this consolidated right of way with an additional six feet to align with planning requirements and enabling access for emergency services.



SEE DART STATEMENT, Page 11

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# Second recipient of the KPMG Novelette A. Ebanks Inspirational Scholarship, Aryana Grant shows a bright future ahead in the Actuarial field

As the second Novelette A. Ebanks Inspirational Scholarship recipient - Aryana is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Actuarial Management at Heriot-Watt University. She previously graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science from the University of Essex before returning to Cayman in 2020.

In 2021, Aryana was awarded this scholarship based on her dedication to academic success, personal motivation, and connection to giving back to her community. In 2020, Aryana graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science before returning to Cayman to start her master's program. She is currently taking classes online due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Aryana has been awarded the scholarship based on her dedication to academic success, personal motivation, and connection to giving back to her community. Aryana was involved as a volunteer with the Cayman Islands Breast Cancer Society and the local Humane Society and enjoys playing Netball with the All-Stars netball Club. She was a previous recipient of the Linda Haddleton Scholarship, for her undergraduate program, awarded by the IMAC Educational Scholarship Foundation.

Aryana completed a summer internship in 2021 within KPMG's Financial Risk Management division. From her experience,

she shared "This opportunity has not only been very educational but has confirmed my ambitions of wanting to become a qualified Actuary. A lot of what I worked on at KPMG was new to me, however with the friendly help of those around me, I was able to not only complete my tasks but understand them and their importance within the Company's services."

Aryana shares advice to anyone looking to pursue a degree in Actuarial Sciences, "My advice would be to know that it is not an easy path. However, it is one that, upon completion, is most gratifying. Do not be afraid to try something new or challenging. Surround yourself with people who you not only look up to but who will encourage and push you to overcome any adversities you may potentially face."

"After the completion of my master's degree, I will be joining the KPMG family full time. I hope to expand my current involvement within my community to give back where I can."

The Novelette A. Ebanks Inspirational Scholarship is special because it is awarded to a Caymanian student who displays strong academic achievements, a commitment to the community and school while developing leadership qualities. The scholarship was created in loving memory of KPMG Partner and inspirational mentor to local students, Novelette A. Ebanks.



Sheenah Hislop, Partner and Head of Local Recruitment at KPMG shares why Aryana stuck out to her as an exemplary candidate, "As only the second recipient, Aryana glowingly exudes traits worthy of this inspirational scholarship. She is driven, engaging, and passionate about her future. KPMG congratulates Aryana on her accomplishments to date, and we are

confident that her path ahead will lead to countless opportunities."

The Novelette A. Ebanks Inspirational Scholarship is part of The KPMG Ignite Your Future Program, which offers local and overseas scholarships to local students interested in a future career in accounting, finance, actuarial science, or accounting information systems. There is

also a range of internship opportunities at the firm for both undergraduates and postgraduates.

For more information, including how to apply for a scholarship or internship can be found at <https://home.kpmg/ky/en/home/careers/graduates-and-students>, or, reach out to Cindy Reid at [cindyreid@kpmg.ky](mailto:cindyreid@kpmg.ky).

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## EDITORIAL

# Caymanian Times welcomes new editor

Caymanian Times Publisher Ralph Lewis is pleased to announce that he has taken on board a new editor for his newspaper, having fulfilled the role of both publisher and editor for a number of years. Lindsey Turnbull will take on the editorial role as from 1st November. Ralph knows that the Caymanian Times will be in good hands when she takes over, as Lindsey is an established editor in the Cayman islands, having edited The Cayman Islands Journal for just less than 10 years and Destination Cayman magazine for seven years. Lindsey has been a regular contributor to the Caymanian Times and both she and Ralph are excited about the direction the newspaper will take in the months ahead. Ralph still remains a hands-on publisher of the Caymanian Times and knows that readers will welcome Lindsey on board as editor, as they both work together to continue



to present a great selection of news, features, entertainment and education pieces to our loyal readers.



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# Civil Service plan to ensure Cayman reopens

At last week's press conference, Deputy Governor Franz Manderson outlined the plan that he was leading in order to get the Cayman Islands to a full state of readiness, in preparation for the borders' opening on 20th November. The plan, called Cayman Islands COVID-19 Critical Preparedness, Readiness and Response Plan, included a statement of intent by Cabinet to safely and responsibly reopen the country to vaccinated travellers, without requiring isolation upon arrival. They also intended that the plan would allow the country to remain open while minimising the number of hospitalisations and COVID-19 related deaths, while at the same time balancing the country's socio-economic needs. They would be working collaboratively and transparently with the Public Service and other key stakeholders to advance the plan and to instil public confidence in the Government's ability to keep the country safe, the Deputy Governor outlined.

The purpose of the plan was to establish what "readiness" looked like. Mr Mander-

son spoke of the key categories, readiness indicators and conditions of satisfaction that had to be met, in order for the Cayman Islands to be in a state of readiness to transition to Phase 4 of the reopening plan on 20th November.

"The aim is to transition in a manner that minimises the number of hospitalisations and deaths," he confirmed.

The Civil Service had been tasked with identifying any key gaps between where Cayman needed to go and where it stood now. The plan would enable them to identify actions needed to be taken to fill any gaps, and the timeframes within which the actions would be taken, to ensure Cayman was in a state of readiness by the target date for transitioning to Phase 4. It would also help to ensure relevant agencies were properly equipped with resources and protocols for the management of their Covid-19-related responsibilities.

Areas which needed to ensure they were ready for opening included health-care systems and Public Health Services.



► Deputy Governor Franz Manderson

There needed to be continuity of essential services, as well as a focus on employment and labour matters, educational institu-

tions, travel and border control, tourism, data and analytics and PR and communications.

## OPPOSITION WELCOMES BORDER REOPENING

Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Roy McTaggart, has welcomed the PACT government's announcement that the borders will reopen on November 20th.

"Seeing the broad outline of the re-opening plan and learning of the proposed new date is undoubtedly welcome. We are all now finally getting a glimpse of the Government's strategy and preparedness for re-opening, albeit at a very high level."

Mr McTaggart also "thanked the Premier for listening to the Opposition and the broader public's concerns and shedding some light on how the Government thinks about re-opening."

However, the Progressives leader's enthusiasm is dampened by his concerns that the actual reopening plan as outlined lacked key details.

While he welcomed "the broad reopening plan", Mr McTaggart noted: "It is not lost on me, or the public, that the country's *Critical Preparedness, Readiness and Response Plan* is still very much a work in progress. Yet, we are less than 30 days away from the newly announced opening date.

The Hon. Deputy Governor, Franz Manderson, had given an outline of the plan



during last week's government press conference.

"As the Deputy Governor said at the press briefing, the public has a right to see every component of the plan. I couldn't agree more. I also agree with the Deputy Governor that the public expects the Government to prove that we are ready to re-open," Mr McTaggart stated in his reaction.

He also pointed to the acknowledgement by the Premier and Government acknowledged that "there is still a lot of work to be done to adequately prepare to re-open and provide the necessary assurances to the country."

The Opposition Leader said, "The country is looking forward to full details of the plan to be made public before we get to November 20th."

Mr McTaggart reminded that he had previously called on Hon. Premier Wayne Panton on October 19th to clarify the government's plans for re-opening.

"I asked him to provide the country with a re-opening date and the details on managing the re-opening, particularly to confirm how the Government was preparing our health systems to handle the anticipated increase in infections as the borders opened."

The Progressives leader also said he had asked for "additional clarity on how people would be supported when having to isolate, particularly those now in isolation because of community spread, and those after the re-opening should the infections materialize."

Mr McTaggart said the Opposition faction has been invited by Premier Panton to attend a presentation this week on the re-opening plan.

"I expect that this will allow the Opposition the opportunity to better understand the details of the plan outlined last Friday," he stated while noting in a convivial tone that while their political views may differ, "I know that the love we both have for these Islands and our people is without question."

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# RCIPS steps up victim protection

By Lindsey Turnbull

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to highlight recent endeavours by the RCIPS to help victims, two RCIPS detectives who are part of a team responding, managing and safeguarding risk when it comes to child protection and domestic violence spoke about their efforts to protect domestic violence victims from perpetrators.

DC Elizabeth Owens is part of this task-force established to look at new ways to

**Domestic violence** is not just physical violence, it can be emotional, financial, psychological or sexual in nature.

## What can a protection order do?

A protection order can: stop someone engaging or threatening to engage in conduct which would constitute domestic violence towards the applicant; stop them being in the same building as the applicant (such as the applicant's home, business, school or place of work), stop them engaging with the applicant, stop them taking possession or damaging property belonging to the applicant, and prevent the them from coming near the applicant.

## Help is on hand

If you feel you need help, you can contact the RCIPS on 9-1-1 if you feel you are in danger. You can also call the CI Crisis Centre's number 943-2422. You can email MASH at MASH@gov.ky or Estella's Place (run by the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre) is also available for walk-in appointments. Call 949-0366 to make an appointment, or contact Carol-Anne Fordyce at 623-4825 or carol-anne.fordyce@cicc.ky.

help people (mostly women but sometimes men as well) who have been victims of domestic violence. She explained how she had managed to employ a new method for ensuring that perpetrators were kept away from their victims.

In March of this year, she managed to get a Court Order under the Protection from Domestic Violence Law to help a victim. While domestic violence sufferers have been able to apply for a Court order themselves to put in place protection for themselves and often their children, even though the law was enacted in 2012 (revised in 2021) this was the first time the police had enacted these powers on behalf of someone.

"It was a very vulnerable victim who had made a report of various issues of domestic violence relating to one particular offender," the detective explained. "She had initially given consent and then withdrew consent. She went through a journey and on the day of the Court hearing for the protection order she had resumed her consent."

Crucially, the woman didn't have to attend Court, she said.

Believing that the woman was overwhelmed by her circumstances, DC Owens said the woman required this "extra level of service". DC Owens said the woman was ill-equipped to make the application herself, so she took the initiative and made the application, engaging with her and also utilising other services within the community to give her the support, such as Estella's Place, the community outreach drop-in centre.

DC Owens said they saved the woman from further harm, and she confirmed that this, and other similar Court applications for protection orders, had managed to restore confidence for victims.

The RCIPS were looking at how such Court orders could assist and support more victims, particularly those who they had identified as high risk within the community. DC Brian Faint said he had been



► DC Elizabeth Owens, DC Brian Faint, the DCFS' Marjorie Whittaker and Nicole Quinland

looking at ways to support and protect domestic violence victims, in particular how the RCIPS could utilise partners.

"It's about shared risk collectively," he stated, "police and the additional agencies all working together to safe guard the individuals."

DC Faint explained that the protection order sought by the RCIPS was an interim protection order served on the perpetrator, which was then followed by a Court hearing about a week to ten days later.

"It's only used in exceptional circumstances when we believe that the threat is so great that we need to do something," he advised.

With the support of other agencies, victims are then able to get on with their lives, he said.

Nicole Quinland and Marjorie Whittaker from the Department of Children and Family Services spoke about their experiences working with such victims. Ms Quinland said that one thing people needed to remember was that victims of domestic violence needed to leave the perpetrator at least seven times before they actually left the situation, so the idea that the police were able to do this order for them was of great benefit to the victims, even if they

were not willing to go ahead and do it for themselves, she advised.

Ms Quinland said only yesterday she had had a young mother and her children in her office waiting for such a Court order to be requested.

"This is a very important tool for victims," she said. "It's common that they don't support it, but there are those who have got to the point where they feel the strength to go ahead and do it. It's great that the police are able to do that."

Ms Quinland said she worked at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which meant working closely with a variety of agencies, including schools, to help safeguard children in particular.

"What we have found is that it's about linking victims with the various agencies and networks, so that they can find themselves in the better situation, so they have the strength to leave, and also to provide them with counselling services and services at the Crisis Centre," she said.

Ms Quinland said that it was normal for the MASH and DCFS staff to see victims more than once, repeating the cycle of needing help again and again, but hoped that every time they needed their services, they got closer to leaving.

## GOVERNOR CALLS REOPENING DATE 'A PIVOTAL MOMENT'

By Staff Writer

Calling it a 'pivotal moment in our handling of the pandemic', HE Governor Martyn Roper has welcomed the announcement that Cayman will be moving to the important Phase 4 and reopening the borders on November 20th.

The announcement was made by Hon. Premier Wayne Panton last Friday.

Welcoming the news, Mr Roper stated: "I want to congratulate Premier Panton and his Government on the border reopening announcements. As a community, we have all been working hard, in effect since March 2020, to get to this position."

He pointed to the current vaccination rate as a critical component in reaching this stage.

Recently the government had in fact played down the 80 per cent target with the Premier stating that the targets "were becoming somewhat fuzzy and meaning-

less particularly when it comes to issues around the Delta variant."

However, the 80 per vaccination rate was very much back on the cards in last Friday's press conference with the Premier appearing to the remaining few hundred people to get their jab.

Government statistics up to last Friday showed that 111,772 Covid-19 vaccinations have been administered of which 56,106 (79% of 71,106) have had at least one dose and 53,813 (76%) have completed the two-dose course. Additionally, 1,853 (representing 10% of those over the age of 50) have had a third or booster dose.

"We are now almost at 80% of the entire population having received 1 dose and (over)75% have had both. That puts us in a very strong position," the Governor wrote. "It is in large part down to each and every one of you have come forward and taken the vaccine."

Mr Roper who has been advocating that Cayman must learn to live with COVID-19,

reinforced that outlook in his statement saying "the time has come to move forward with our reopening and live with covid. We can no longer stand still because the costs - economic, social mental health - are mounting and will only rise further if we remain stuck."

He cautioned however that "we have to move forward as safely as possible."

According to Governor Roper, scientific and medical advice is clear both from Dr Lee and independently confirmed by the UK's Health Security Agency (UKHSA) - formerly Public Health England - that it is safe to take this decision and welcome back fully vaccinated tourists.

"It will give a much-needed boost to our economy and help many people get back to work," he noted, while reiterating that "we are as well prepared as anywhere in the world to take this next step."

He also commended the Premier "for his leadership, courage and vision" saying that these are incredibly difficult de-



isions, but they are the right ones for everyone in Cayman.

Mr Roper said he also recognised "the superb efforts of all the civil servants who worked around the clock to produce the national critical preparedness, readiness and response plan for Government."

That plan was outlined by Hon Deputy Governor Franz Manderson during last week's government press as the basis for the delayed November 20th reopening



# Gardener Donates Plants to Pedro St. James

The management and staff of Pedro St. James offers a special thanks to Ken Nutter who donated several plants including 10 coconut trees, two each of papaya and ackee trees and a guinep tree this past week [Wednesday 20th October], all of which will be planted within the grounds of the National Historic Site.

Mr. Nutter is an avid gardener and uses his skill to relax and reduce stress. He recently found himself with “extra” plants and thought a great way to give back is by donating them to the gardens at Pedro.

“The site recently lost trees and decorative shrubbery during Tropical Storm Grace, so the donation is quite timely,” said

Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) Director, Patrick Thompson.

Encouraging others to lend a hand, Mr. Nutter said “If you have extra plants bring them out so everyone can enjoy them. What a wonderful place to give back to.”

Mr. Nutter, who is the assistant manager of the Bakery at Hurley’s Marketplace is also planning to donate unused pineapple tops to Pedro St. James, in hopes of creating a pineapple patch on the grounds of the attraction.

“The TAB is keen to build relationships with individuals and local organisations even in small ways like this, as together we can continue to preserve and maintain our national attractions,” said Mr. Thompson.



► Pictured with Mr. Nutter is Anju Whittaker, PSJ Gift Shop staff who facilitated the donation

The Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) is responsible for managing the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park; the National Historic Site, Pedro St. James; the Cayman Craft Market and the Hell Geological Site.

For information on the TAB or its agencies please email [marketing@tab.ky](mailto:marketing@tab.ky), call 949-6999 or visit the website [www.tab.ky](http://www.tab.ky) and its social media sites (below).

<https://www.facebook.com/TourismAttractionBoard>

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## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Cabinet Waives Duty on Lateral Flow Kits

Cabinet last week waived duty on all brands of the antigen-detecting rapid diagnostic test for COVID-19, also known as a lateral flow test, that meets Government’s guidelines for importation.

The arrival of lateral flow tests in the Cayman Islands, Deputy Premier and Minister for Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Christopher Saunders explained, means that large numbers of people can self-administer inexpensive tests that will allow the prompt identification of individuals who are positive for COVID-19, and minimise time in quarantine or isolation for those who are negative.

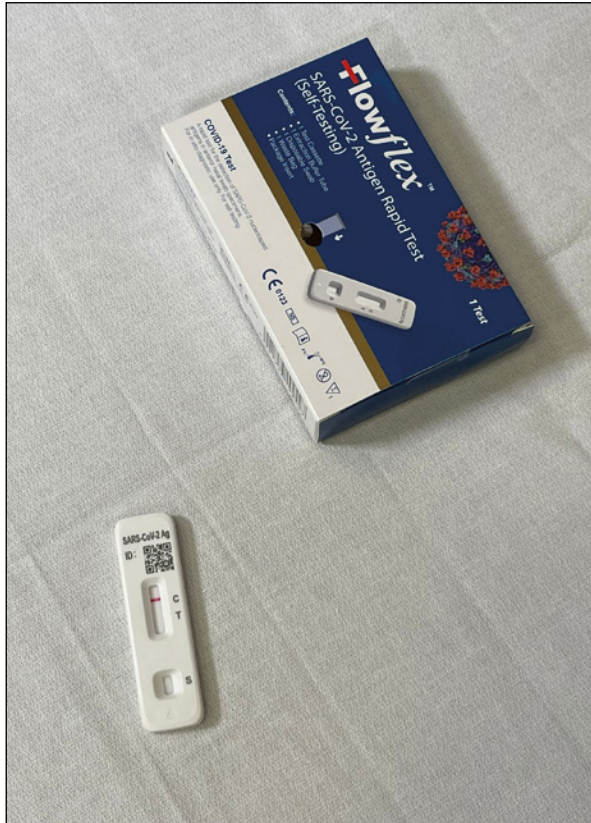
Mr Saunders commented, “There are significant social, economic, and mental health benefits to the capability for rapid testing which outweigh any revenue that Government may have forgone”.

With the Cayman Islands currently experiencing community spread of COVID-19, officials believe there is potentially a need for hundreds of thousands of tests (costing around KYD2.50 each), to allow schools, businesses, sports clubs and similar organisations to remain open.

“We hope the duty waiver will act as an incentive for vendors to import approved tests kits themselves and pass the savings on to the consumer,” concluded the Deputy Premier.

Government has itself already imported some 11,000 tests, working with Crown Agents in the UK.

Shortly after the tests arrived on-Island a pilot rapid testing programme was success-



fully rolled out on Saturday, 16 October, by Public Health to a large group of families in isolation. There were 220 participants, of whom two tested positive. Households in which all members tested negative were allowed to immediately leave isolation.

#### Rapid Test Importation Guidelines Now Available

Government published guidelines surrounding the importation of the antigen-detecting rapid diagnostic test for COVID-19, also known as a lateral flow test, in its Legislation Gazette on Friday, 15 October.

SEE LATERAL FLOW KITS, Page 12

### Ex-gratia stipend available to families under required home isolation from Public Health

The PACT Government has approved one million dollars in funding for an ex-gratia stipend to be paid to Caymanians and Permanent Residency holders who have lost earnings due to required Public Health home isolation.

The stipend will be available through the end of the year.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Border Control & Labour Hon. Chris Saunders said, “The Government is aware of the hardship COVID-19 isolation can take on households and particularly on those families with smaller trade and service-based employers who are not able to work remotely from their place of isolation. When these employees are placed into isolation, it is possible that some portion of that period will be unpaid. This situation is particularly difficult when a household has more than one breadwinner in isolation, and the loss of income is multiplied.”

To qualify for the ex-gratia stipend, potential recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Must have been in Public Health directed isolation
- Must be in non-traveller related isolation/quarantine
- Must attest to not receiving a salary from their employer or if self-employed must show they are not able to work from isolation
- Must provide a declaration that they are not receiving holiday pay or similar compensation
- Must not be an existing Tourism Displaced Worker stipend recipient

- Must be Caymanian, Permanent Resident or married to a Caymanian with an Employment Rights Certificate (RERC).

Applications for the ex-gratia stipend can be submitted online and must include the necessary relevant documents as follows:

- A copy of Cayman Islands voter registration card, Caymanian Status Certificate or Right to be Caymanian Certificate
- A copy of the last payslip or official job letter
- Banking details (for electronic funds transfer) or
- Postal address (for delivery of a cheque)
- A copy of the letter from Public Health mandating isolation or quarantine.

“The health and safety of our population has been and remains at the heart of all policy decisions relating to the re-opening of our borders. It’s important that we protect the community as much as possible from widespread COVID-19, but we understand while isolation/quarantine protocols are required, it may cause a financial burden to some. It is the hope that this ex-gratia stipend will help to reduce the stress and worry that people feel during these times,” Deputy Premier Saunders said.

To apply online, visit <https://www.gov.ky/labour/stipend> and view the necessary document requirements or email: [stipend@gov.ky](mailto:stipend@gov.ky) with any questions.



# Governor and Premier get their booster shots

By Christopher Tobutt

His Excellency Mr. Martyn Roper and Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton took the lead in getting their covid-19 booster shots on Friday 22 October. The government is rolling out booster shots for the over-50's, and so Mr. Panton and Mr. Roper rolled their sleeves up at the Lions Centre.

"Booster shots are very important, because we do know that the coverage and level of protection offered by the vaccine does wane after a period of time," Mr. Panton said. "Particularly for those people who are older, it is great to be able to have the facility to get booster shots for them so that they can maintain a very high level of protection. We're here to promote that and we think that having booster shots particularly important for the elderly and those that are more vulnerable, as well as our health care workers who have been vaccinated. It's a very significant part of our level of protection; the way we are going to successfully live with covid and to continue to rebuild our economy after reopening."

Mr. Panton went on to explain that he didn't see that it would be practical to eliminate the virus: "I have said in the past that covid is coming, and I have said that we will have to learn to live with it," he said. "This is about getting our people protected as much as possible, and we can do no better than for people to get their shots."

Despite the number of school children who have recently tested positive, Mr. Panton went on to say that there were not presently any plans to mandate teachers for the shots. "Government cares about people. They care very much about their children," he added.

After he had his shot, Governor Martyn Roper commented, "I think this is really important that we can roll out the booster programme to our over 50s. It is an



► His Excellency Governor Martyn Roper and Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton roll up for their booster shots



► Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton gets his booster shot

absolutely fundamental element in our measures to live with covid. In Cayman we are having a lot of mitigations in place to help us limit the spread, which includes mask-wearing, social distancing, and it includes the very high vaccination rate and it includes the booster roll-out. We are very fortunate to have the Pfizer vaccine, and I saw a study yesterday that said this booster vaccine dose is 96 percent efficient at stopping covid infections, which is really encouraging for all our elderly and vulnerable people."

Hon. Sabrina Turner, MP · Minister for Health, said, "I think that the booster shot adds another layer of protection over our people, based on the data that's coming out, for people who have had their second jab more than six months ago. Especially as we begin to open our borders that much more, we are doing everything to encourage persons to take this opportunity, and it's free"



► Mr. Roper gets instructions from a health services official just before his booster shot

## NEW SYSTEM TO OVERSEE RENEWABLE ENERGY BIDS



As part of plans to increase the use of renewable energy in Cayman, the Utility Regulation and Competition Office (OfReg) has announced that it has made its final determination on a Renewable Energy Auction Scheme (REAS).

OfReg will oversee the competitive bidding process from potential providers of renewable energy planning to enter the market.

The REAS which will be implemented in Q1 of 2022, will rely on competitive forces.

According to OfReg, the new procurement process for renewable energy contracts "will play a significant role in accelerating green energy production, and allow the Cayman Islands to move closer to achieving the NEP renewable energy ambitions of 70% by 2037, whilst delivering technology diversity, at the lowest cost to electricity customers.

There's a massive global push towards generating more renewable energy from

solar, wind, geothermal, wave action, fracking and other methods to reduce dependency on fossil sources.

This is considered critical to minimising the impact of climate change for which small states such as Cayman are particularly vulnerable.

There are also considerable cost implications as renewable energy will ultimately be cheaper.

OfReg says the Renewable Energy Auction Scheme (REAS) that it will adopt comes out of reviewing submissions received from the general public, licensees, and other interested parties via two public consultations.

Under the REAS, which will be managed by OfReg, potential energy producers bid against each other to supply energy through long-term contracts at the lowest possible price.

The utilities regulatory agency programme said the new process was developed to enable the procurement of renewable energy at competitive prices while advancing the goals of the National Energy Policy ('NEP').

It further explains that "the final determination outlines the main policy objectives and external factors impacting the design of the new scheme, setting the context for the volume of renewable en-



ergy capacity to be procured under the REAS, and the general framework to be followed."

OfReg says it supports greater renewable energy generation growth in the Cayman Islands and to that end, it has been putting in place several regulatory initiatives to facilitate the addition of renewables into the Cayman electricity market.

It also says the REAS takes into account OfReg's duty to promote appropriate, effective, and fair competition, and to ensure that energy is provided at the least affordable cost to consumers, whilst si-

multaneously supporting environmental sustainability.

OfReg CEO Malike Cummings said: "The REAS sets out the mechanism for the procurement of utility-scale renewables through a transparent, competitive and robust process."

He also stated that: "The current Integrated Resource Plan projects 140 MW of utility-scale solar by the year 2030, and it is through the utilisation of tools such as the REAS, we will be able to incentivise significant investments in renewable energy, that will drive economic development and job creation in the Cayman Islands."



# Cayman reopens 20th November to vaccinated travellers

By Lindsey Turnbull

The much-anticipated date for reopening of Cayman's borders has finally been announced – Saturday 20th November. From this date moving forward, Cayman will transition into Phase 4 of its reopening plan, which means vaccinated travellers to the Cayman Islands will not need to quarantine upon arrival. This does mean, however, that children under the age of 12, and anyone travelling with them, will still have to quarantine upon arrival, given that anyone under 12 is not yet eligible to be vaccinated.

At last week's press conference, the Premier Wayne Panton said they did consider combining the element of Phase 5 which allowed unvaccinated children not to isolate with Phase 4 but the advice centred on the level of risk and how they balanced that to ensure they did not create a situation where Cayman ended up with too much community transmission going on.

"We would love to be able to accommodate children coming with parents who are vaccinated and the children are unvaccinated, but the reality is at the moment it is very difficult for us to ensure that we have that balance right. So, we are keeping that under consideration but it's not a decision we have made at this point," he stated.

Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan said that the Ministry and Department of Tourism understood that many stakeholders were concerned about people not having the opportunity to bring their families.



► Premier Wayne Panton

"This is a family destination, as well as there being Caymanians who have their loved ones overseas who may not be old enough to be vaccinated, so we are definitely looking at ways to do that safely, and whether lateral flows can assist with that. Until we're certain the safety component has been covered, we can't move to that stage yet," Minister Bryan said.

The Premier outlined that to ensure validity of vaccination records, Government would require the electronically viable copy of vaccinations (the QR code) and they would also have a portal through which people could upload their vaccination documentation. Cayman Islands Customs and Border Control will review the submitted vaccination details and they will then issue an

approved travel certificate, if they are satisfied.

The CBC will be accepting people from countries that have a vaccination record of 60% through the portal and will only accept secure verification for people coming from countries where the vaccination record is less than 60%, in order for them to qualify for no quarantine.

As the United States has a low vaccine uptake compared to other developed countries (as at 21st October 2021, 66.7% had had one dose and 57.6% had had two doses), yet makes up the largest number of Cayman's tourists, Americans with a double dose will still qualify.

"Places like Canada and the United States [where people] are passed through their first dose, and in respect of Johnson

and Johnson where its only one dose, they will also be recognised, obviously," the Tourism Minister advised.

Responding to the question as to whether people could now be confident in Cayman sticking to this date for opening, Minister Bryan said that lessons had been learnt from the recent community outbreak.

"All the signals give me comfort to know that we were going to be prepared when we were open and that we're doing it in such a measured way that we should never be overwhelmed to cause us to shut down, so therefore that should give industry and business deciders enough confidence to know we don't want to go back. When we do open we were going to stay open," he said.



► Deputy Governor Franz Manderson

## Children to be vaccinated soon

By Lindsey Turnbull

Since the Government revealed the border opening date for vaccinated travellers arriving without the need to quarantine, the focus as to when children under the age of 12 can safely get the Covid-19 vaccine has come to the forefront of discussion. At a press conference held last week, Chief Medical Officer John Lee said he thought it would soon be time for vaccines to be approved for those aged 5 to 12.

"A lot of people are looking forward to being able to vaccinate their children," he

said, adding it was also a difficult area. "It's one for parental consent in some cases, and in some cases maybe a joint decision between children and parents, for them to make and them to make alone."

Dr Lee said that trials were underway to pave the way for safe vaccines for children aged between 5 to 12, but that the medical fraternity were still waiting for one of the Stringent Regulatory Authorities (which includes the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency in the UK and the Food & Drug Administration in the United States) to approve those vaccines.

"I think once one of them does, the others will probably all end up falling in line because they will have seen the data and they will be satisfied that the data means they will be happy to move forward and vaccinate that group of children," Dr Lee advised.

A New York Times report from last month quoted the FDA as stating it was "working around the clock" to make Covid vaccines available to young children. But the FDA said until that point, parents should not try and get their children under 12 vaccinated. The newspaper said the FDA hoped to reach the point for younger children to be safely vaccinated "in the coming months," but that it could not offer a more specific timeline.

In one clinical trial in Texas for the Pfizer vaccine, the data has revealed that one-third of the adult dose is the optimal range for children between 5 and 12. Another being held at Oxford University is seeing up to 150 participants aged 6-11 years and up to 150 participants aged 12-17 years taking part in its study. Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) had also had success in vaccinating children using smaller doses, Dr Lee said.



► Chief Medical Officer John Lee

"It's good news," Dr Lee said. "It's around the corner, it will be coming soon and a lot of people will be very pleased as they can keep their children safe."

He said this was particularly good news for children who were most likely to suffer badly should they get Covid.

"I know the parents are particularly concerned about that," he said.

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# JAMAICAN HOTELIER NAMED NEW CARIBBEAN HOTEL AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

*Nicola Madden-Greig vows focus on tech, people and sustainability*

Respected Caribbean hotelier Nicola Madden-Greig has been named the new president of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA).

The award-winning Jamaican businesswoman was elevated to the position during CHTA's Annual General Meeting last week. She will serve the final year of a two-year term vacated by Pablo Torres, who tendered his resignation as he assumed broader regional responsibilities with Hilton International.

Madden-Greig recognized Torres for his work as president, thanking him "for stepping up to the plate to lead the association at a time of extreme crisis." She lauded his leadership during the pandemic, and wished him well in his new role as Area Vice President of Operations - Full and Focus Service Hotels in the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America for Hilton International.

In accepting the presidency, she said technology and sustainability will be two of her top priorities as she embarks on a three-year term. She also is looking forward to growing CHTA's membership and helping the association become an even stronger voice for Caribbean tourism.

Declaring that "Caribbean tourism must not only survive, but thrive," Madden-Greig stressed the importance of better collaboration, establishing new partnerships and strengthening existing ones as the industry grapples with the ongoing threat of climate change and the continuing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking to the future, she said, "Climate change still presents an existential threat to a sustainable industry," and added that technology has vastly changed how tourism works.

"From the way we tackle our tasks to how we communicate with co-workers,

suppliers, and current and prospective customers, technology has created ripples of change that have impacted companies in every industry," she said.

As an example, she pointed to the tourism industry's response to COVID-19, "where the virtual world became front and center and a proliferation of apps, communication tools such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams and other platforms became indispensable."

She urged members of the Caribbean tourism sector to reimagine the industry and use the latest technological tools to deliver new customer experiences "geared around hyper-customization".

To that end, Madden-Greig said one of her goals is to create a Caribbean tourism technology task force within CHTA that would examine opportunities to use tools such as artificial intelligence, augmented reality, virtual reality, big data and robotics to establish smart tourism enterprises in smart destinations, utilizing smart teams.

However, she said, while technology offers innovative solutions, she cautioned the sector against compromising the trademark, authentic warmth of Caribbean people, noting that "a resilient, engaged, human-centric and sustainable industry is critical in this new paradigm shift."

This people-centered approach, she added, "must continue to be an integral part of the planning process as we embed Industry 5.0 technology into tourism enterprises and work to upskill, reskill and provide support mechanisms for team members to transition into new roles or to provide exit options and support."

She affirmed that small, micro and medium-sized tourism enterprises must not be left behind in the shift to a higher-tech industry, and urged broad-based collab-

oration among the public and private sectors, nongovernmental organizations, multilateral groups and local hotel and tourism associations to ensure smooth delivery of new products and services.

Acknowledging the value of education, Madden-Greig underscored the need to work with academic institutions across the Caribbean to ensure the available programs reflect the changing trajectory of tourism and that "our young people are getting the right tools to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of the sector."

Madden-Greig also reiterated that broadening membership participation to build a stronger CHTA will be critical in moving forward.

"Let's ensure the Caribbean rhythm never stops and vibrates throughout the entire world," she said.

Madden-Greig, who is currently the group director of marketing and sales for The Courleigh Hospitality Group, brings two decades of tourism industry experience to her new role with CHTA.

She is a former two-term president of the Jamaica Hotel & Tourist Association (JHTA) and current chair of the Gastronomy Tourism Network. Madden-Greig also sits as a director on the Jamaica Tourist Board and the boards of JHTA, the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce, and the Tourism Linkages Council of Jamaica. She received JHTA's President's Award in 2006 and 2019, and, earlier this year, was named a recipient of Jamaica's Order of Distinction (Officer), one of the country's highest honors.

## About the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA)

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) is the Caribbean's leading association representing the interests of



► New CHTA president Nicola Madden-Greig, OD

national hotel and tourism associations and the region's private sector. For more than 55 years, CHTA has been the backbone of the Caribbean hospitality industry. Working with some 1,000 hotel and allied members, and 33 National Hotel Associations, CHTA is shaping the Caribbean's future and helping members to grow their businesses. Whether helping to navigate critical issues in sales and marketing, sustainability, legislative issues, emerging technologies, climate change, data and intelligence or, looking for avenues and ideas to better market and manage businesses, CHTA is helping members on issues which matter most.

For further information, visit [www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com](http://www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com).

## PURCHASE OF SMALL PARCEL OF LAND ON LITTLE CAYMAN IN MAHOGANY BAY/PHOSPHATE PARK SUBDIVISION AT THE WEST END OF THE ISLAND

The Little Cayman District Committee of the National Trust For The Cayman Islands is very pleased to announce the purchase of a small parcel of land on Little Cayman in the Mahogany Bay/Phosphate Park subdivision at the west end of the island. The parcel contains three immense, old growth mahogany trees. These magnificent trees have been a prominent landmark on Little Cayman for as long as memory serves and are clearly visible in the first aerial survey photos of Little Cayman taken in 1972 towering above the surrounding forest canopy. They are certainly in the hundreds of years old. The trees have been a point of interest for decades and are included in the National Trust's Explorer Passport for the Sister Islands.

It remains a mystery why these trees did not fall to the axman first during the extensive logging that occurred on all three Cayman Islands in the distant

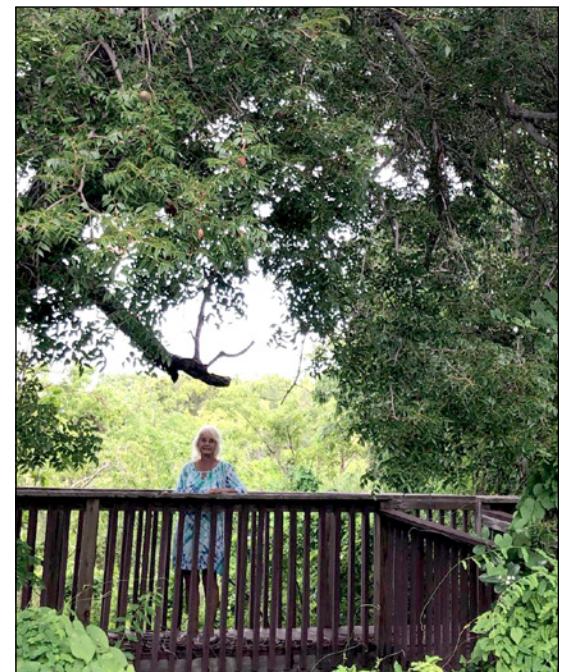
past after the arrival of Europeans to the New World and then during the phosphate mining era that occurred on Little Cayman in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Indeed the lot itself is an old open pit phosphate mine with the excavations literally in the shade of these trees.

The purchase was made possible through a donation of the entire purchase price, US \$39,000, by Trust member and long time resident of Little Cayman Mrs. Brigitte Kassa. Mrs. Kassa settled on the island with her late husband Basil in 1973 when there were fewer than 20 inhabitants. She is a founding member of the Little Cayman District Committee and a Life Member of the National Trust. She has been extremely generous to the Trust over the years with substantial monetary and several other land donations in the past. Her selfless volunteering

and generosity stem from her desire to preserve and protect the unique flora, fauna and pristine environment of her home, Little Cayman.

Brigitte is an author of several children's books. Her latest is however an autobiography that chronicles her colourful life, "From Coffee, to Champagne, to Coconuts." All proceeds from the sale of the book also go to the Little Cayman District Committee land fund and it can be ordered from all of the online booksellers including Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

The Little Cayman District Committee of the Trust and The National Trust For The Cayman Islands sincerely thank Brigitte for her selfless efforts, dedication and uncommon generosity in helping to preserve and protect the special natural environment of Little Cayman for present and future generations of Caymanians.



► Mrs. Brigitte Kassa under the trees



# Department of Agriculture Warns of Escaped Raccoon

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) is warning members of the public to beware of a raccoon which escaped in the vicinity of Republic Plaza in West Bay, early this morning (Friday, October 22).

The raccoon is one of two which escaped a shipping container from the United States. One was trapped. Food from the container has been dumped in light of possible contamination.

Members of the public are urged not to approach or touch the animal which could be dangerous to humans or pets. "It may be tempting to try and pet a wild animal but we are warning the public not

to do so as the raccoon could be carrying diseases such as rabies, and are known to be aggressive. Raccoons are nocturnal and are attracted to food waste and garbage. Residents in the area are asked to report any sightings of the raccoon to the Department of Agriculture Veterinary Services", a DoA representative stated.

The Department of Agriculture is working in conjunction with Department of Environment and Department of Environmental Health to capture the animal.

Members of the public can contact the Department of Agriculture Veterinary Services at 916-5435; 947-3090 or call 911.



# CHRISTMAS CHARTER FLIGHT HOTELS & GUEST HOUSES URGED TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE PACKAGES

The Barbados Overseas Association working along with the Barbados Consulate office in the Cayman Islands has organized a charter flight between Cayman Islands and Barbados for the Christmas holidays.

Travellers can also board the flight from Barbados to Cayman to visit family and friends or simply get away after being isolated for so long due to Covid-19 restrictions. Now travellers going either way who are fully vaccinated with verifiable vaccination records, can travel without losing any of their vacation time to quarantine!

Cayman Islands recently announced its no quarantine policy for some vaccinated travellers, a welcome announcement for many.

Hotels and guest houses both in the Cayman Islands and Barbados are encouraged to reach out to the Consulate or the Barbados Association to provide details of package deals they can offer to guests. The Barbados Association's spokesperson said, "With so many people showing an interest in this charter flight, with this coming right on the heels of the Cayman Islands announcing the opening of its borders and

Barbados removing quarantine and PCR testing requirements, the hotels and guest houses could add that extra bonus by offering the best affordable rates and tour packages to make this the best Christmas gift since Covid-19 halted travel".

People are excited to return to some sense of normalcy and the Charter offers a superb opportunity for travellers to Barbados with connections to Trinidad, St Lucia, Guyana, Grenada and other islands in the Eastern Caribbean.

Hotels and Condos that are interested should contact the Barbados Overseas Association to share their packages at info@boac.xyz.

The Charter leaves Grand Cayman on 19th December 2021 and ends on January 4th 2022.

PCR negative test results are currently still required for entry into the Cayman Islands.

## Flight Details

Date	Flight Details	Departure	Arrival
December 19th, 2021	Grand Cayman to Barbados	08:00am	12:10pm
December 19th, 2021	Barbados to Grand Cayman	1:10pm	3:30pm
January 4th, 2022	Grand Cayman to Barbados	1:00pm	5:10pm
January 4th, 2022	Barbados to Grand Cayman	6:10pm	8:30pm

Anyone wishing to travel on this charter can email Charter@boac.xyz for travel costs and reservation.

# GOVERNOR CALLS REOPENING DATE 'A PIVOTAL MOMENT'

CONTINUED FROM Page 5

which had to be postponed from October 14th due to an unexpected and continuing surge in community-spread COVID-19 cases, especially among school children.

According to Mr Roper, "We now have to be ready for a new normal and live with COVID - as we have been doing for the last month since we first had community spread."

But with the number of local cases increasing, the Governor has tempered his advice of Cayman learning to live with the disease, in what he called 'the new normal'.

"Let us be clear, living with Covid in Cayman remains a cautious and careful approach with significant mitigations in place to protect our community (in that sense it differs very markedly from the more open policy followed in the UK). In Cayman our high vaccine take-up combined with other mitigations eg roll-out of boosters, using lateral flow tests to detect and isolate positive cases, mask-wearing, good hand-hygiene and social-distancing measures - these are all crucial to our new normal and how we live with covid safely."

He said while it's likely that case numbers may increase following the reopening of the borders, "the science gives us confidence that when combined all these measures will contain the spread of the virus and prevent the overwhelming majority of us from getting seriously ill or dying."

Despite the ongoing spike in infections, serious illnesses and hospitalisations have been low.

Interestingly Governor Roper noted, in the Turks and Caicos Islands the majority of COVID-19 cases are not tourists but the local population travelling overseas and then circulating in the community.

He is urging those persons who have not yet been vaccinated to get their shots, and for those who have had their two doses to take advantage of the booster shots which are now available.

The Governor who has also received his booster shot said: "Our booster programme is now in full swing - we have already ordered another 11000 doses to arrive on island in the second half of November or sooner if needed."

He stressed: "As we move towards a new normal of living with covid each of us needs to assume personal responsibility for protecting everyone in our community by following the public health regulations and guidelines. The majority of us have done that outstandingly over the pandemic."

At what he referred to as "this key moment in our response to the pandemic" Mr Roper declared that "we are ready to move forward and I remain highly optimistic about Cayman's future. We are a strong and resilient community. I remain convinced we will succeed."



# Dart statement on rights of way court hearing

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Following the process for modifying easements and/or dedications, in 2019 Dart applied to the Grand Court to relocate the two existing 6-foot public rights of way so the Land Register could be updated.

On Friday, 22 October 2021, the application was heard in open court, with the Public Lands Commission and Registrar of Lands represented by the Attorney General's office. During the hearing, the judge heard the concerns raised by private citizens (initially the Concerned Citizens Group) and explained that the concerns of the public could be represented by the Attorney General. The judge ordered the originating summons be amended to add the Attorney General as a respondent and recommended the parties to reach a consent agreement.

Dart President Real Estate Asset Management Justin Howe said, "The consolidated and enhanced public right of way is wider than most, providing an 18-foot access and facilitates emergency vehicle



access, as was required last year when a boat was beached on the shore. Access to

the beach by the community is important and we are confident that we can reach

consent on achieving meaningful beach access."

# Reopen Cayman welcomes Government's decision to reopen Cayman's borders on 20 November, 2021

The group of local business leaders who has been campaigning as 'Reopen Cayman' for the reopening of Cayman's borders on 22 November, today welcomed the Cayman Islands Government's announcement to prepare for moving to Phase 4 of the reopening plan on 20 November, 2021.

The group has been conducting a public awareness campaign, #Ready2Reopen, which aims to educate and inform the general public that we can safely coexist with COVID-19 in the community and that we must get ready to reopen our borders.

"As a group of Caymanian business leaders representing industries right across the private sector, we are pleased that following the pause, the government has announced that we will now move to Phase 4 of the reopening plan on 20 November, 2021," said Randy Merren, Hurley's and a member of the private sector group.

"We are hugely supportive of the collaborative efforts in recent weeks by the government, the civil service departments and the private sector in developing a plan that allows us to reopen our borders safely. This presents Cayman with our best opportunity to get many businesses up and running again and start down the road of recovery for our communities and our economy. As we move forward to the next phase, we need to ensure we keep safe, social practices top of mind as we share responsibility for each other's well-being."

Recognising the government's delivery on its promise to provide businesses and the wider community at least four-weeks' notice of the date for reopening the borders, the group further acknowledged that there is more work to do to get ready and prepare the community.

Speaking about the group's #Ready2Reopen campaign, Paul Pearson of Davenport Development said, "While we appreciate the enormous efforts that have created the opportunity to reopen by ensuring the processes and resources are in place to

safely coexist with COVID-19 in the community, we also know there is more to do in the coming weeks to help many in the community prepare.

"The #Ready2Reopen initiative will continue to educate and inform our community that we can reopen safely. We will support the government by sharing information and helping our businesses and communities get ready to reopen. As a group, we along with many others, are ready to reopen on 20 November but we fully recognise that being "ready" to reopen will look and feel different to everyone," said Pearson.

"The #Ready2Reopen campaign provides the opportunity for individuals, groups and businesses to 'make the pledge' to reopen. More than 2,000 have done so already and we encourage everyone to 'make the pledge' when they feel ready to do so," said Pearson. "We need to feel ready as a community and with the pledge we are providing the opportunity for all to have their voices heard when they are ready to reopen."

To make the pledge visit [www.reopen-cayman.com](http://www.reopen-cayman.com) and follow on Facebook @reopencayman or on Instagram @reopen-cayman.



## THE PANEL

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**POLICE NEWS**

## Man Charged for Attempted Burglary and Going Equipped

A man, age 41 of George Town, who was arrested on 18 October, has now been formally charged with Attempted Burglary and Going Equipped to Steal. The charges relate to an incident on Wednesday, 29 September, where an attempt was made to gain entry to a business in the West Shore Centre on West Bay Road.

The man appeared in court on October 21st.

## Police Seek the Public's Assistance to Locate Wanted Man, Charles Walton III

The RCIPS is seeking the public's assistance in locating 24-year-old Charles Leonard Walton III, who was last known to be living in Prospect. Mr. Walton is wanted by the police for firearms offences and is known to be aggressive. He is believed to be armed and dangerous and police are advising the public that Mr. Walton should not be approached by members of the public, but instead to immediately call 9-1-1 upon sighting him.

Investigators are encouraging anyone with information about the whereabouts of Mr. Walton to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222 or dial 9-1-1, specifically if the circumstances are time sensitive. Additionally, Mr. Walton is encouraged to turn himself into the Cayman Islands Detention Centre, or the nearest active police station, at any time, day or night.

The public is being reminded that according to the Police Act

(2021 Revision), it is an offense to obstruct, mislead or act in such a way as to prevent the apprehension of a person who has committed an offense. If prosecuted under this section, you may be liable on conviction to a fine of \$5000 or imprisonment for two years or both.

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>.



► Charles Leonard Walton III

## Operation Quaker to Resume Focus on Night Time Speeding

Beginning last Friday, 22 October, the RCIPS will be shifting the focus of its ongoing traffic enforcement operations, under the name Operation Quaker, and targeting night time speeding and drunk driving especially where serious traffic incidents have been occurring.

This renewed focus of Operation Quaker will consist of increased police presence and traffic enforcement at known hot spots, including speeding enforcement at various locations, along with vehicle checkpoints, and high-visibility patrols. The public should be aware that police officers will be prosecuting all traffic offenses, particularly speeding and DUI, throughout the weekends.

"Despite our efforts, we continue to see irresponsible and dangerous driving behaviors, particularly motorists ignoring speed limits, and passing other vehicles in inappropriate situations. These actions result in not only putting their own lives at risk, but that of their passengers and other road users," says Superintendent Brad Ebanks.

"Within a very short period this year there has been two fatal accidents on South Church Street. This is 30 MPH road, and rightly so when considering the narrow lanes and multiple hazards including

driveways, trees and intersecting roadways that can impede motorists' visibility and ability to react quickly when needed. This road is characteristic of many roads in Cayman, where dangerous driving is especially risky and irresponsible, putting all road users in danger".

"When we attend major traffic incidents or someone loses their life as a result of a fatal collision, speeding and/or driving under the influence are almost always a contributing factor," says Inspector Dwayne Jones, head of the Traffic & Roads Policing Unit. "It's also important to remember that motorists are not the only road users, and to consider the heightened risk dangerous driving presents for the more vulnerable road users such as cyclists, runners, walkers and children - especially on roads where there are no sidewalks to utilise."

The public are reminded that the penalty for speeding is a fine of \$20 for every mile per hour over the speed limit you are found to be travelling. If the total fine exceeds \$500 dollars, you will have to attend court, and, on conviction you are liable to have your license suspended for a minimum of 12 months, along with the fine.

The legal blood-alcohol limit in the Cayman Islands is 0.100%. If you are



breath-tested and found to have a blood-alcohol content at or exceeding this amount you will be subject to arrest. Upon conviction you are liable to a fine of \$1,000, and will lose your driver's license for a minimum period of 12 months. The penalties increase if you have previous DUI convictions.

"Not only do these offenses risk your life and the lives of those around you,

they also carry stiff penalties when you are caught," says Chief Inspector Malcolm Kay of Specialist Operations. "More importantly, if you are the cause of a fatal or serious collision, your life will be permanently affected from almost every perspective. We appeal to everyone to slow down and not to drink and drive - don't put yourself in a position where you have to face the consequences."

## Cabinet Waives Duty on Lateral Flow Kits

CONTINUED FROM Page 6

The new regulations specify that imported tests must have been recommended or approved for use by a national public health agency in any of the following countries:

- United States of America,
- United Kingdom,
- European Union,
- Australia,
- New Zealand,
- Jamaica, or
- Canada.

The regulations also require that approval of tests must have been preceded by rigorous, documented testing.

In addition, they state that tests must have a sensitivity (ability to identify persons with COVID-19) of at least 80 per cent, and a specificity (ability to identify persons without the disease) of at least 97 per cent.

While the Medical Officer of Health may make exemptions to these requirements, all exemptions must be published in the Cayman Islands Gazette or a similar channel.

The guidelines surrounding the importation of rapid tests are outlined in section 4 of the Control of Covid-19 (Testing) Regulations, 2021, and are available at <http://gazettes.gov.ky/portal/pls/portal/docs/1/13114741.PDF>.

Sections 1-3 of the same regulations briefly outline requirements for registered and accredited practitioners, healthcare facilities and medical tourism facilities to provide PCR testing for COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands. It also details the requirements for reporting positive test results to the Public Health Department.

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► Bryony Dixon, Brown Booby Birds Nesting, 2021



► Sheree Ebanks, Cayman Brac Bluff from Long Beach, 2021

# New Exhibition Celebrates the Natural Beauty of the Sister Islands

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (NGCI) is celebrating our Sister Islands through the lens of local photographers in the upcoming exhibition “Beloved Isles.”

Rotating between NGCI’s two partner exhibition venues at the Cayman Brac Beach Resort and the Little Cayman Museum, the exhibition seeks to showcase the unique environment, culture and communities of the Sister Islands. Collectively the images depict the natural landscapes, endemic species, expansive seascapes, historic architecture and the traditions of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. The project was developed in celebration of our ‘land of soft, fresh breezes’, which provides a source of endless inspiration to our many talented artists.

Work by forty-one photographers who responded to the Gallery’s ‘Open Call’ in July 2021 were selected by a jury of Sister Islands representatives and National Gallery curators. The featured photographers are: Melissa Bennett, Leonard Bodden, Scott Brady, Maya Cochrane, Mariasol Danzinger, Alasdair Dewson, Brian Dilbert, Bryony Dixon, Sheree Ebanks, Megan Ehman, Lana Gilyun, Jennifer Goddard, Heather Holt, Maggie Jackson, Faye Lippitt, Shallyn MacDonald, Natalie Mar-



► Beloved Isles Opening Invitation (Cayman Brac)



► Beloved Isles Opening Invitation (Little Cayman)

tin de Pablos, Lindsay McGill, Julian Menko, Jodie Miller, Philippa Miller, Jessica Mittelman, Niranjan Nagaraja, Sebastien Nehme, Morgan Olley, Claire Pettinati, Ben Phillips, Beth Price, Reshma Ragoonath, Cheryl Ravina Arlante, Lisa Reid, Dione Scotland Rivero, Simone Scott, Ward Scott, Janine Scriven, Isabella Seguin, Judy Singh Hurlston, Alta Solomon, Tricia Sybersma, Debbi Truchan, and Thomas Williamson. The project is supported by the host ven-

ues, the Cayman Islands Legacy Fund and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage.

The National Gallery’s Travelling Exhibition series is part of their wider Sister Islands programme which includes the weekly afterschool art class ‘Walkers Art Club’ (for primary school students) and Senior’s ‘Tour and Tea’ events. This exhibition will run from 28 October – 25 February and will be supported by a programme

of special workshops, Art Talks and activities. The artworks will rotate between the two venues in December to provide residents of both islands with the opportunity to see the entirety of the exhibition.

For more information about the exhibition or to book a school tour and activity, please contact us at [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky) or (345) 945 8111 and visit our website at [www.nationalgallery.org.ky](http://www.nationalgallery.org.ky).



► Dione Scotland Rivero, Reminiscent, 2010



► Alta Solomon, Feed a Thousand, 2015

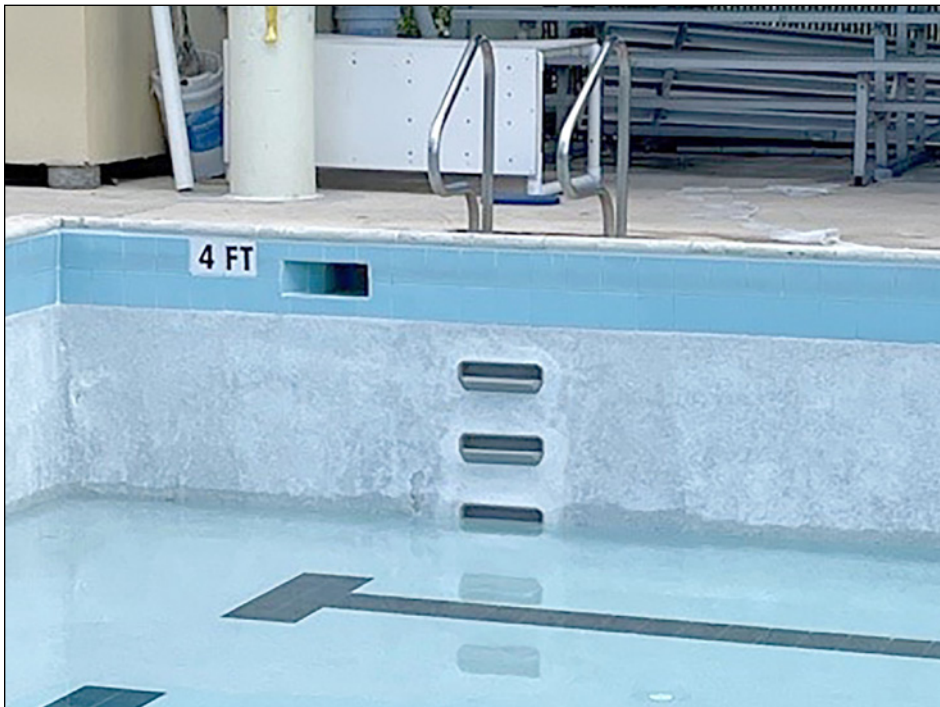


# Lions Aquatic Swimming Pool Re-Opens Ahead of Schedule

The Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage is pleased to announce the re-opening of the Lions Aquatic Pool following a short period of closure.

“We have reopened the pool to the Swimming Association and swim clubs, ahead of schedule, following our closure for essential remedial works,” said Director of Sports Kurt Hydes.

“Our swimming coaches are ready to host schools P.E. lessons once the Department of Education Services resumes them. We appreciate that the closure has caused some disruption to our swim clients but the repairs were necessary for safety reasons. We would like to thank the public for their patience and their support as we work to ensure the safety



► The Lions Aquatic Pool is now open to clients following its closure for essential repairs

of both clients and staff going forward,” he added.

Repair work to the 32-year-old pool included removal and installation of new in-cast steps, removal of in-pool lights and the installation of new LED ones.

The Director advised that the age of the facility and its high usage levels meant that

maintenance work was unavoidable. He further noted that global materials shortages due to Covid had also been a factor in the length of the closure. The Ministry for Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage is however, very pleased to have the facility reopened and will continue to make upgrades as necessary.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule – OCT 2021 (v5)

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR OWN FACE MASK**



The COVID-19 vaccine is available to ALL persons 12 years and over  
First and second doses are currently available to all persons.  
Boosters are being administered in phases (see below)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	19	20	21	22	23
1st & 2nd Dose available to all persons 12 years and older					
Boosters (3rd Dose) available to healthcare workers, 50+ years old and clinically extremely vulnerable (see criteria below)*					
NEWLANDS COMMUNITY OFFICE (#8 Homestead Crescent, behind Wendy's)  4 - 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm  PROSPECT COMMUNITY OFFICE 5pm -7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm	CAMANA BAY** NEW LOCATION 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm (Canella Court, 2nd Floor, adjacent observation tower)
25	26	27	28	29	30
1st & 2nd Dose available to all persons 12 years and older					
Boosters (3rd Dose) available to healthcare workers, 50+ years old & clinically extremely vulnerable (see criteria below)*					
NO CLINIC	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm  SISTER ISLANDS Aston Ruffy Centre 9am – 12pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm  WEST BAY HEALTH CENTRE 5pm – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm	CAMANA BAY** NEW LOCATION 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm (Canella Court, 2nd Floor, adjacent observation tower)



## CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

## Cuban protester gets 10 years

Cuba's communist government, fearing a repeat of street protests next month, have jailed a protestor from the recent unrest for 10 years in what is seen as a warning to others not to cause civil disobedience.

Roberto Perez Fonseca, who took part in unprecedented nationwide street protests three months ago, received the stiffest punishment yet of anyone who defied the government in those rallies, his family and a human rights group said.

The sentence was handed down by a court in San Jose de las Lajas, a town 20 miles from Havana. On July 11 and 12 thousands of Cubans screaming "freedom" and "we are hungry" took to the streets in some 50 cities and towns to protest harsh living conditions and government repression.

The rallies, which had no precedent since the Cuban revolution of 1959, left at least one person dead and dozens injured as security forces cracked down. Around 1,130 people were arrested, and more than half of them remain in jail.

The court, on Oct. 6, said Perez Fonseca, 38, was guilty of contempt, public dis-



► Cuban protesters live in fear now

order and instigation to commit a crime, even though it was his word against a sole policeman's and no witnesses were allowed in his defence.

Human Rights Watch said there is overwhelming evidence of abuses by the Cuban authorities and suppressing demonstrations.

Meanwhile, Cuba is set to reopen for its vital tourism trade next week. There will be an elimination of the mandatory quarantine from Nov. 7, when overseas tourists will be welcome, providing they adhere to all Covid-19 protocols.

## JA preacher in 'human sacrifice' horror

A Jamaican preacher and 41 of his congregants were arrested last week after two people were killed during an alleged "human sacrifice".

Kevin O. Smith, a self-proclaimed "prophet," and the church members were arrested for slitting the throats of office worker Tanecka Gardner, 39, and an unidentified man. It happened at Pathways International Kingdom Restoration Ministries in Albion, Montego Bay.

Police are convinced a major bloodbath was only averted because a woman who was wounded for disobeying orders at the church raised the alarm.

The ceremony is understood to have centred on rabid anti-Covid vaccine campaigner Smith's bid to stop "bloodline pollution caused by witchcraft" which he claimed caused wicked sex dreams.

The day of the murders, Smith ordered parishioners to dress in white, wrap their phones in tin foil, leave the devices at home and head to the church. He wrote on Facebook: "The Ark is loading now! Leave immediately dressed in white ...



► Preacher Kevin O. Smith is in custody

It is a Roman Catholic sacrifice — it will have no survivors."

According to the Daily Mirror, after Gardner was killed, a man also had his throat slit in a bid to rid his body of "impure" blood. Three others were hospitalised with life-threatening injuries.

At the scene police found more potential victims, including naked men and animals, who had been lined up to be next, it is reported. Authorities are also looking into child sexual abuse allegations surrounding Smith.

## Guyana needs better gas supply

Guyana will become one of the region's top oil producers in the next few years, but the world's newest petro-state increasingly sees gas as vital for growing its domestic economy.

Work will begin on constructing a major gas-fired power plant in 2022 on the expectation that a 220-kilometre pipeline will be built. Guyana needs the gas and hydropower so that it can depend on its own energy to deliver its goods and services.

Guyana's new energy wealth has already made it one of the world's fastest-growing economies, with the International Mon-

etary Fund forecasting gross domestic product expanding 20 percent this year. Still, electricity in the tiny country with a population of about 750,000, is expensive and unreliable because it is largely generated by burning imported fuel oil and distributed via an aging transmission system.

The government sees an opportunity to change that through Exxon Mobil Corp's massive offshore oil developments. The discoveries, of around 10 billion barrels of oil, also contain vast amounts of natural gas, which government officials want to use for power generation.



► Guyana will start boosting its gas supply next year

## Antigua bounces back after virus scares

Antigua and Barbuda has improved its vaccination rates for Covid-19 so well recently, on-island restrictions have been eased allowing visitors a chance to enjoy some newly re-opened tourism experiences. Antigua had a record number of visitors in August but then had a bad outbreak of covid cases which necessitated restrictions, but now things are much better.

Guests can look to spend time at one of the island's 365 beaches; new opening hours for all beaches are from 5am-7pm daily. Water excursions are also officially open. Guests can sail to Antigua's sister-island Barbuda, for a visit to the magnificent Frigate Bird Sanctuary or drop anchor within reach of a deserted beach. Antigua's activities include kayaking, a circumnavigation cruise and snorkelling, along with various other wa-



► Antigua's magnificent Frigate Bird Sanctuary is open again

ter-based experiences that stretch across the coastline. Land-based excursions continue to operate.

Following a short break, restaurant tables are also set to reopen for dine-in service, but only for fully vaccinated travellers. The curfew hours have also been relaxed, and will now apply from 11pm-5am. Visitors must still observe all Covid-19 protocols during their stay.

## Trinis held over Grenada bank robbery

Five Trinidad and Tobago men are in custody accused of attempting the most audacious of bank robberies on the island of Carriacou. If found guilty they face a maximum of 30 years in jail.

Their target was the Grenada Cooperative Bank last Monday. They have been remanded into custody after making a court appearance over the weekend.

Jabari Roach, a 25-year-old air conditioning technician; vendor Allan Melville, 28; Akeem John a 32-year-old painter; Nashawn Scotland a 29-year-old mechanic and fisherman Keon Dick, 36, did not have legal counsel when they appeared in court in St George's. They will return to court on Nov. 3.

Two of the men are reported to have entered the bank armed with guns and wearing masks and demanded cash from three of the tellers. Videos circulating on social media show the men running away from the bank displaying cash and mon-



► The alleged bank robbers return to court Nov. 3

ey bags. They then tried to flee the island using a boat, but were caught by the Grenada Coast Guard.

Each has been charged with three counts of robbery with violence and entering the state illegally.



# SUDOKU

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

## Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

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### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/29

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 41 Greek vowels
  - 1 Witty remark
  - 5 Whole range
  - 9 Bohemian dance
  - 10 British prime minister Johnson
  - 12 Be of use
  - 13 Steal
  - 14 Muscular-looking, in slang
  - 16 Make a choice
  - 17 Church service
  - 18 Hunters' guns
  - 21 Saloon order
  - 22 Straightened up
  - 23 Pollster Elmo
  - 24 Soldiers
  - 26 Hailed vehicle
  - 29 Prone
  - 30 Long story
  - 31 Fitting
  - 32 Declined a bit
  - 34 Eye-related
  - 37 Gin drink
  - 38 King march site
  - 39 Espresso order
  - 40 Office div.
- DOWN**
- 1 Merry
  - 2 Go by
  - 3 Passes over
  - 4 Story
  - 5 Crunch targets
  - 6 Road rescue
  - 7 Baltimore player
  - 8 Moved quickly
  - 9 City of northern Italy
  - 11 Hardens
  - 15 Needed fixing, as a faucet
  - 19 Midmonth day
  - 20 Fragrant tree
  - 22 Hammer or
  - 23 Hold up
  - 24 Rewarded for good service
  - 25 Baby's toy
  - 26 Per — income
  - 27 FBI employees
  - 28 Scout's reward
  - 29 Vietnam neighbor
  - 30 Paintball sound
  - 33 Land in the sea
  - 35 Rascal
  - 36 Purr producer

P	A	S	T		S	W	A	T	S							
S	L	E	E	P		T	A	R	O	T						
A	L	T	E	R		E	X	T	R	A						
L	A	T		A	M	P		H	I	T						
M	Y	O	P	I	A		H	U	E	S						
						S	P	A	R	K	L	E	R	S		
								T	I	E	I	N				
								F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S
M	I	N	I		A	N										
A	N	T			D	Y	E		S	A	X					
C	A	I	R	O				S	P	O	K	E				
E	L	M	E	R				S	A	V	E	R				
S	E	E	D	Y						L	O	S	T			

### Saturday's answer

- 19 Midmonth day
- 20 Fragrant tree
- 22 Hammer or
- 23 Hold up
- 24 Rewarded for good service
- 25 Baby's toy
- 26 Per — income
- 27 FBI employees
- 28 Scout's reward
- 29 Vietnam neighbor
- 30 Paintball sound
- 33 Land in the sea
- 35 Rascal
- 36 Purr producer

## Word Search

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

- Blessing
- Bow
- Cherub
- Clouds
- Guardian
- Halo
- Harp
- Healing
- Heaven
- Inspiration
- Loving
- Ornament
- Prayers
- Religious
- Ribbons
- Robe
- Sandals
- Spiritual
- White
- Wings

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

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9						10				11
12						13				
14					15			16		
17					18	19	20			
21					22					
				23						
	24	25						26	27	28
29								30		
31						32	33			
34			35	36			37			
38							39			
	40						41			

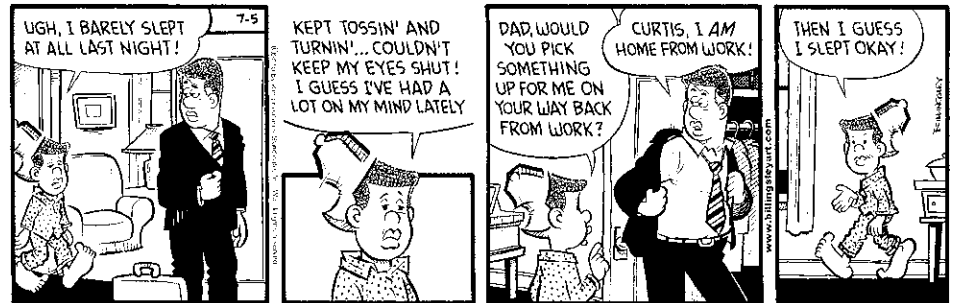
7-5



Have fun with  
**CAYMANIAN  
TIMES**

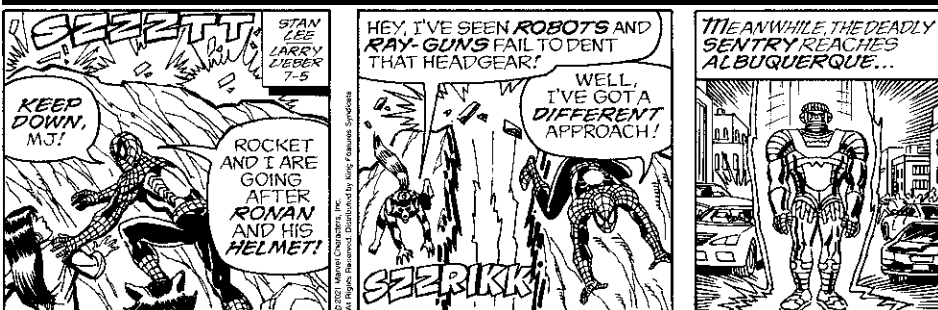
## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



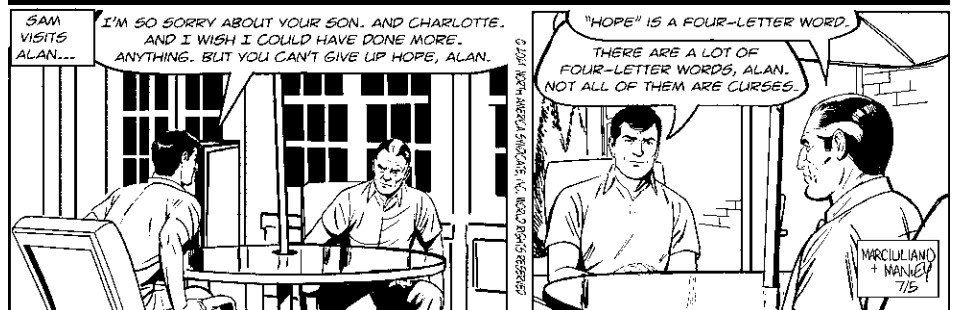
## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





# **T** **Caymanian** **Times**



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