

# Times Caymanian

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# Cuban migration under pressure



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# CRIMINALS MUST LEARN THE HARD WAY THAT CRIME DOESN'T PAY

By Staff Writer

In July 2021, Hon. Premier Wayne Panton, in response to an upsurge in the scale of the violence, convened an emergency meeting with HE Governor Martyn Roper and all members of Parliament during which they were briefed by Police Commissioner Derek Byrne on what the Premier described as "this grave situation."

"Stop the bloodshed," he pleaded following several deadly crimes.

That was 18 months ago.

Since then, what appeared to have been an initial brief lull has escalated to a worrying level with a spate of armed robberies on businesses and civilians, much of it said to be linked to illegal gambling.

In this Christmas season which is supposed to be even more of a time of goodwill than other times of the year, our community continues to be plagued by this scourge.



The reports coming from the RCIPS should be of great concern to all and sundry. This cannot be allowed to go on.

Alongside efforts to 'come down hard' on the perpetrators of these 'crimes against Cayman', we must also look into programs to steer those engaged in such a negative and dangerous lifestyle of crime onto a path of rehabilitation to make them useful, law-abiding citizens.

In the meantime, no stone must be left unturned to reverse this situation, which could quite easily spiral out of control.

We fully endorse the position adopted by the Government and law enforcement and supported by the Opposition.

"The Cayman Islands Government has zero tolerance towards crime and we will work with the RCIPS to prevent further escalation of any activity that incites fear and anguish in our communities. Again, we implore everyone to cooperate with the police, and proactively offer any information that could assist in ongoing investigations. We deserve to enjoy the holiday season, including shopping for gifts for our loved ones, without the fear of being a victim of crime."

Finally, to the offenders of these crimes – we join in urging you to consider the consequences of your actions.

"Our prisons are filled with persons who thought they would never be caught for their acts. Do not mistake short-term gains from these horrible and nefarious activities for success. Justice will be served and the penalties will indeed be appropriate for the level of distress and harm being caused to the citizens of our community."

The global perception of Cayman is that of a welcoming, peaceful, tolerant and safe society. There's too much at stake; both for the safety and security of residents as well as our visitors on whom our economy and livelihoods depend.

We welcome the joint statement by HE Governor Martyn Roper, Hon. Premier Wayne Panton and Hon. Opposition leader Roy McTaggart on working together to combat the rise in robberies.

We also welcome the news that the RCIPS has deployed additional resources, both overtly and covertly, including additional Officers with firearms to protect the community and arrest those responsible for the robberies.

We also welcome the offer by Crime Stoppers of an award of up to \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of these robbers.

This situation requires all hands on deck to stamp it out once and for all.



## CUC's New Year's Closures

On **Friday, December 30**, our Customer Service Centre at Caribbean Plaza and our Administrative Offices on North Sound Road will close at noon for New Year's. These offices will reopen for business on **Tuesday, January 3, 2023** at 9:00 a.m.

Gift Certificates from CUC that can be used towards paying electricity bills are available in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 from our Customer Service Centre.

Visit [www.cuc-cayman.com](http://www.cuc-cayman.com) for a complete list of our online bill payment options. Bill payments can be made at our remote payment locations across Grand Cayman during their respective holiday hours.

*Warmest wishes for a safe and happy New Year!*



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## Caymanian Times

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# 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Concludes

The annual international United Nation's campaign, 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence, concluded on International Human Rights Day (10 December).

In the Cayman Islands, the Gender Affairs Unit in partnership with the Family Resource Centre, hosted several successful events and training sessions as a part of the initiative.

"The Gender Affairs Unit is proud to have been involved in marking the 16 Days of Activism again this year. The activities brought together advocates and victims/survivors as well as Government agencies, academia and Non-Profit Organisations. The activities ranged from training sessions, workshops, awareness displays and outreach programmes – all of which served to help garner further concrete commitments from Government and other stakeholders in our community towards ending gender based violence," said Senior Policy Analyst, Karlene Bramwell.

Around the globe violence against women and girls remains the most prevalent human rights violation to this day. Global statistics show that more than 1 in 3 women experience gender-based violence during their lifetime and that more than 5 women or girls are killed every hour by someone in their own families. Figures also show that less than 40% of those who do experience violence ever seek any kind of help.

"These figures are startling and are only being amplified by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, effects of climate change, economic instability amongst other issues. The solutions to ending gender based violence are dynamic and include public education; attitudinal change at the individual level, as well as broader societal changes aimed at reducing structural inequalities, bias and discrimination; along with the provision of opportunities to enable people to live in safety, free from oppression, and with access to necessary resources to develop their talents and skills. We are grateful to our partners for helping make this a successful 16

Days and thankful to those participants in our community who came out to join," she continued.

Ms Vernis Bodden (73), a participant of the Women's Economic Empowerment Workshop which focused on Small Business Management, said, "I was truly motivated and inspired by this well-planned workshop. As an older woman and an entrepreneur, I left with the determination to change the world around me by continuing to grow and produce food for health and wellness".

Access to the financial and knowledge resources to assist women-owned small businesses to produce high-quality products and services are vital for those trying to rebuild their lives after the experience of gender based violence.

To learn more about reducing gender based violence and other issues email: [genderquality@gov.ky](mailto:genderquality@gov.ky).



► Agency Presenters at Womens Empowerment Economic Workshop



► Agency Reps At Community Dialogue Event



► Sponsors Presenters Participants at Womens Economic Empowerment Workshop

# Minnesota-based Sun Country airlines Starts Seasonal Service to Grand Cayman



On Saturday, 17 December Sun Country airlines launched its weekly service between Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) and Owen Roberts International Airport in Grand Cayman (GCM).

The Minnesota Metropolitan Airports Commission joined representatives from Sun Country and the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism at MSP for a gate side celebration before the inaugural flight. The celebration included a ribbon cutting ceremony, and photo opportunities for passengers.

The Sun Country plane was greeted upon landing with a 'shower of affection' and passengers were treated to a selection of local treats and beverages as well as a steel pan serenade and an appearance by Sir Turtle.

Sun Country adds to the destination's airline seat capacity which has increased by 1,253 seats in the fourth quarter of 2022.



► Minister for Tourism and Transport, Hon. Kenneth Bryan greets the arriving Sun Country passengers



► Daniel Taugher (Cayman Islands Department of Tourism), Ty Bricker (Sun Country), Jude Bricker (CEO, Sun Country Airlines), Roy Fuhrmann ( Chief Operating Officer, Metropolitan Airports Commission), Dana Nelson (Director, Stakeholder Engagement, Sun Country), Brian Peters (Director of Air Service Development Metropolitan Airports Commission) at the ceremonial ribbon cutting at MSP.



► Cayman Islands Government officials, and Sir Turtle greet the Captain and crew of the inaugural Sun Country flight



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# Law will stem flow of Cuban migrants



► Cayman Coast Guards are extremely busy

The Cayman Islands Government is about to pass legislation to make asylum claims more difficult for irregular migrants and speed up the slow and expensive process.

Diplomatic talks were held in early December between the Cayman Islands Government and a delegation from Cuba to discuss the alarming increase of migrants landing on Cayman shores. The talks included strategies aiming for greater search and rescue coordination to save lives, shortening the time it takes to return migrants to Cuba and targeting of human smugglers for prosecution.

Soon after, the Cayman Islands Coast Guard Operation's & Rescue Coordination Centre received a call on 14 December from the MV Hellespont Pride ship reporting that they found eight Cuban nationals adrift around 35 miles south of mainland Cuba.

Cayman coast guards contacted the Cuban Border Guard who picked up their

compatriots from MV Hellespont Pride 13 miles from Port of Santiago de Cuba and were returned to Cuba.

Chris Saunders, the Border Control Minister, brought an amendment bill to parliament on 19 December. He said the number of Cubans now arriving was creating a crisis, and changes to the law could reduce the time they remain here and deter others from coming.

The cost of accommodating and repatriating Cuban asylum seekers may be as much as \$3 million this year. Amending the legislation will expedite the processing of their applications.

Saunders said: "We are in the midst of a crisis, with serious economic and security implications," noting that there are currently more than 350 migrants in immigration, which takes on average nine months to process. "The significant increase in arrivals is putting a severe strain on the Customs and Border Control Agency, both in Grand Cayman and in Cayman Brac."



► Desperate Cubans use flimsy boats

The spike in arrivals this year is compounded by all migrants now claiming asylum. Saunders said it takes more than nine months to fully process, despite the memorandum of understanding with Cuba which was designed to cut down the time migrants stay before being repatriated. The amendments to the Customs and Border Control Act, he said, are designed to streamline the asylum process while still adhering to international obligations.

"It is imperative that we shorten the average length of stay," he said. "The magnitude of the financial burden is directly related to the length of time that a migrant remains in the Cayman Islands."

"Almost all migrants arriving in the Cayman Islands exercise the ability to apply for asylum and the right of appeal," he said.

He said that it costs \$1,300 per month for each migrant and an average total of \$11,700 from arrival to departure, which does not include the cost of repatriation.

Saunders said that as the economic situation in Cuba deteriorates, since April, 360 undocumented migrants have landed in Cayman, 100 of them in October alone, and arrivals continue as seven more men arrived in Cayman Brac as he was presenting the bill.

Expressing his support for the bill, Deputy Governor Franz Manderson explained why the Cayman Islands could not just give the migrants food and water, fix their boats and send them on their way, as some people in the community have suggested. He said they would be running the risk of "being branded as a country of being supportive of illegal immigration because that's what we would be doing - and we certainly wouldn't want anyone doing that to us".

Manderson also noted safety concerns in sending people on rickety boats out to sea, which was "putting persons' lives in jeopardy". He said that Cayman was mindful of its international obligations and doing "the responsible thing".

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee Stamp Issue presented to HE the Governor

On 29 November, His Excellency The Governor Martyn Roper received a framed set of the Cayman Islands Postal Service's special commemorative stamp issue celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Featuring a series of black and white photographs of HM The Queen from the early years of her reign after her accession to the throne in 1952, the Cayman Islands Platinum Jubilee stamp issue consists of a set of four stamps in denominations of 25¢, 80¢, \$1.50, and \$1.60 plus a First Day Cover valued at \$4.95.

At the presentation, HE Governor Roper said, "This stamp issue was certainly a lovely tribute to Her Late Majesty The Queen from the Cayman Islands Postal Service as the United Kingdom and the

Overseas Territories celebrated her historic 70-year reign. As with the outpouring of affection after Her Late Majesty's passing in September, it was an appreciated expression of the esteem and respect many people in our Islands hold for our long-serving and devoted late monarch."

Postmaster General Sheena Glasgow said, "The commemorative stamp issue celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee has proven to be very popular. Her Late Majesty The Queen has been featured in several Cayman Islands stamp issues, and each has proven to be of unique interest to stamp collectors from around the world."

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee stamp issue remains on sale at the Philatelic Bureau, located at the Seven Mile Beach Post Office.



► His Excellency The Governor Martyn Roper (centre) receives the framed set of the Cayman Islands Postal Service's special commemorative stamp issue celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II from Postmaster General Sheena Glasgow (right) and Philatelic Bureau Acting Manager Shindi Beput (left).

# Camana Bay's Golf, Gather, Give tournament raises CI\$30,000 to support community initiatives

*Golf tournament held Friday, 16 December saw 12 corporate teams participate to raise funds*



► Twelve teams of four players each participated in Camana Bay's first Golf Gather Give tournament, which this year raised funds for Meals on Wheels and R3 Cayman Foundation.

The Camana Bay community has come together to raise CI\$30,000 to support efforts to feed seniors in need, assist with disaster preparedness and investments in immediate response systems and equipment for the Cayman Islands.

The funds were raised at the first Golf, Gather, Give Camana Bay golf tournament at North Sound Golf Club on 16 December 2022, where CI\$15,000 was donated to the R3 Cayman Foundation and matched by the Kenneth B. Dart Foundation. Of the CI\$30,000, half will be donated to Meals on Wheels, which provides nourishing meals to seniors, while the other half will support the R3

Cayman Foundation's focus on readiness efforts, assisting with disaster preparedness and investments in immediate response equipment and systems for the Cayman Islands.

The charity was selected in remembrance of Mr. Craig Arch, of Audi Cayman Islands and Arch Automotive and a long-standing member of the Camana Bay Town Centre community, who passed away earlier this month.

"The passing of Mr Craig Arch will leave a very big hole in our hearts and our everyday life at Camana Bay. Having reached out to our contributors, we have had an overwhelming response to direct

funds raised as part of our Golf, Gather, Give initiative to Meals on Wheels to provide for those in need over the holiday season, in loving memory of Craig Arch," said Dart Vice President of Business Development and Leasing, Kristy Rivers.

She also expressed thanks to the Kenneth B. Dart Foundation for matching the funding donated to the R3 Cayman Foundation. "This allows us to double the impact of the donation and contribute an overall CI\$30,000 back to the local community before the close of 2022," she said.

Participating were 12 teams, each consisting of four players, representing

corporate tenants and guests at Camana Bay, including Crestbridge, Floreat, JTC Fund Services, Ogier, PwC and Waystone as well as the following sponsors Appleby, Cayman National Bank, Dart, Deloitte, EY, Intertrust and RBC Royal Bank.

The winning team was Deloitte, with Floreat and JTC Funds finishing in second and third place respectively. Special prizes were awarded for the following: Closest to the Pin - Jonathan Bernstein; Lady's Longest Drive - Odette Samson and Men's Longest Drive - Jonathan Bain.

Rivers said she envisages the Camana Bay Golf, Gather, Give golf tournament becoming an annual event.

## Spanish Cultural Activities in the Primary Schools



The Spanish Department of the government primary schools is finding creative means to immerse students in authentic cultural settings where they can experience the language in a tangible way. On Saturday, students, along

with parents and teachers, attended the Filadelfia SDA church where they experienced Spanish language and culture through religion and food. Thanks to Elder Calzado and Pastor Nyack pictured at back left for facilitating this.

## Examination & Graduation Fees Removed for Caymanian Students

The Ministry of Education (MoE) announces the removal of examination and graduation fees for Caymanian students enrolled in government schools.

The new measures, which take effect on 1 January 2023, are consistent with the Broad Outcome of improving education to promote lifelong learning and greater economic mobility for Caymanians set out in the Cayman Islands Government's (CIG) 2022-2024 Strategic Policy Statement.

"The removal of these two financial burdens will enable us to provide greater support for our Caymanian students;

facilitate a more inclusive graduation experience and provide a clearer pathway for students to pursue post-secondary education or gainful employment," said Minister for Education, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly.

"As we take these final steps towards free education, we can further ensure that each Caymanian student has an equal opportunity to advance and to realise their full potential," the Education Minister continued.

An estimated 454 compulsory-age students will benefit from the removal of examination and graduation fees annually.

# Youth experiencing mental distress during holidays reminded to seek emergency care

This year's Youth Sailing Championship was one for the ages. Cayman sailors were pushed to the brink of their sailing limits over two days of competition. In what most described as 'on the verge of survival mode' conditions; thirty-nine youth sailors battled it out for 2022 sailing supremacy on the North Sound. Sailors were split across four classes of boats - Optimist Green (beginners), Optimist Championship (advance), Hartley 12 (double handed) and International Laser Class Association 4 (ILCA 4) (single handed). In the end, reigning Hartley champions Molly DeSeram and Stella Dean were the only ones to successfully defend their title and three new champions were crowned.

Saturday was the windiest of the two days, sailors had to contend with 20 knot gusty winds from the North north-east, coupled with the infamous North Sound chop, which made sailing on the day an arduous task, especially on the upwind legs. But these conditions only strengthen the sailors resolve. Race officer Peta Adams who had a front seat view of the action said, "I was in awe by

what I saw from the sailors today".

In the optimist championship fleet (15yrs and under), there was a hard-fought battle between Cameron Lloyd, Bronwen Burt and Russell Wilson. Cameron led the first day with two bullets and both Bronwen and Russell had one a piece. They would go into the final day on 6, 9 & 9 points respectively. Bronwen took the fight to Cameron on Sunday, tying up the points with two bullets of her own, which meant that it was all to play for going into the final race. Ebba Collins, who had a remarkable day two, took first place in the final race closely followed by Cameron. Cameron was crowned optimist champion with 10 points, Bronwen second place on 11 and Russell third place on 14. In the beginner's optimist class, Red Bay Primary student Zaiden Doctor took first place, followed by Harrison Hewitt and Alexander Butterworth.

In the ILCA 4 fleet there was another three-way battle between Allie Capasso, Lyndon Pickering and Victoria Rowlette for the championship going into the final race of the day. With just

one point separating 1st and 2nd, and one between 2nd and 3rd, it was all dependent on the final race. In the end it was Allie who was unfazed by the pressure and sailed her way into first place to take the championship. Even though Victoria finished ahead of Lyndon in the last race (which meant that they were tied on points after their discarded race), Lyndon was awarded second overall because he had more first place finishes than Victoria; this was in accordance with 'The Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix A'.

Hartley 12 Defending champions, Molly and Stella were the standout performers at this year's event, finishing the regatta with six bullets from 7 races. This was the third consecutive championship across two fleets that dynamic duo has won. Most improved sailor of the year, Claudia Bullmore and her crew Dominic Gunn were second, followed by Nicholas Sved and Kaden Ramos in third.

The Cayman Island Sailing Club would like to thank all sailors, parents, volunteers, and the coaches for making this event a huge success.

# Public Health Clinic in Cayman Brac moving to new location



Cayman Brac's Public Health Clinic, formerly at Faith Hospital, will be relocating to the Medical Wing at the Aston Rutty Civic Centre starting January 4th 2023.

"The Aston Rutty Medical Wing location has been used by Faith Hospital for many years", stated Dr. Srirangan Velusamy, Director of Sister Islands Health Services. "It became critical in 2020 where it was used as our flu clinic, COVID testing, and vaccination site. The relocation provides larger office space for the Public Health Clinic, and our newly recruited community health care nurse who will work closely with our existing public health nurse."

All persons with Public Health appointments, or those seeking COVID-19 testing and vaccinations in Cayman Brac will be seen at this new location from January 4th 2023 onwards.

To contact the Sister Islands Public Health Clinic, contact 244-7643.

## VACCINE SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2022

- COVID-19 Pfizer
- COVID-19 Moderna
- Flu Vaccine

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>FOSTERS, Savannah</b> Pfizer Moderna Flu Vaccine 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm</p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>FOSTERS, Camana Bay</b> Pfizer Moderna Flu Vaccine 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm</p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>FOSTERS, Airport</b> Pfizer Moderna Flu Vaccine 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm</p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>FOSTERS, Airport</b> Pfizer Moderna Flu Vaccine 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm</p> <p><b>DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRES</b> Flu Vaccine 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>

Updated Dec 20, 2022

Persons who had their last COVID-19 vaccination or booster more than 3 months ago are eligible for the Moderna (bivalent) fall booster shot.



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# Cruisers escape American freeze



► Cruise passengers flock to Grand Cayman



► Visitors love to ride horseback in our sea

The cruise liner industry loves Grand Cayman. With its paradise setting and its close proximity to Florida, there is every reason why Americans are coming in droves. That's evident by the number of ships passing through here this week, with seasonal festivities at their peak. It started on Sunday, Christmas Day, with the visit of the Eurodam and Celebrity Summit. Although George Town is a relative small port, up to four cruise ships can anchor at one time. If there are more

than four in port, the others remain in the harbour.

After three years of pandemic-affected cruising, this is the first Christmas for passengers to travel, island to island, care free.

On Monday, Boxing day, Caribbean Princess, Disney Dream, Zuiderman and Norwegian Prima. On Tuesday it was Carnival Horizon and Brilliance of the Seas.

Wednesday brings 6,200 more in Carnival Vista, Carnival Paradise and Celebrity

Apex and Marella Discovery 2. On Thursday there was Carnival Sunrise and Celebrity Beyond. On Friday it's the turn of Caribbean Princess, Disney Magic and MS Insignia.

Most passengers are escaping the terrifying wintry conditions of the 'bomb cyclone' in the States that has affected 240 million Americans and Canadians, linked to at least 22 deaths. More than 1.5 million people lost power and thousands of flights were cancelled since Thursday.

The vast storm extends more than 2,000 miles (3,200km) from Texas to Quebec. Even Florida was affected with unusually freezing temperatures.

In contrast, cruise passengers in the tens of thousands are flocking to Grand Cayman. Besides touring the island, they can go barefoot in the sand, beach horseback riding, enjoy the best scuba diving and snorkelling, get up close and personal with the stingrays and turtles. They can even go to Hell.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5	6
Carnival Pride	Odyssey of the Seas	Norwegian Breakaway	Brilliance of the Seas		
Ruby Princess	Silver Dawn	Celebrity Reflection	Celebrity Edge		
Rotterdam		Disney fantasy	Norwegian Pearl		
			Celebrity Constellation		
			Norwegian Prima		
			Radiance of the Seas		
<b>Total Passengers</b>	<b>Total Passengers</b>	<b>Total Passengers</b>	<b>Total Passengers</b>	<b>Total Passengers</b>	<b>Total Passengers</b>
7,774	4,842	11,987	16,167	0	0



# CCMI Scientists Dive Deep to Study Coral Adaptation

*What CCMI scientists hope to learn from corals found in the deep*

CCMI's researchers and partners from the University of Haifa, Israel, are using specialized equipment and new methods which they have developed to study how corals can adapt to climate change.

Led by CCMI's Director of Research, Dr. Gretchen Goodbody-Gringley and University of Haifa Professor, Dr. Tali Mass, this team of scientists are seeking answers by studying corals living down to 50 m of depth on the reef walls of Little Cayman. Using both open- and closed- circuit technical scuba diving gear, they are investigating what adaptations have enabled certain corals to survive across broad environmental gradients. With this information they hope to understand how the capacity for corals to change and respond to depth may give insight into their overall adaptive potential and ability to survive in the face of future climate change.

Dr. Goodbody-Gringley explained, "We know that some species of corals are capable of living under very different environmental conditions; you can see examples of this all along the reef walls of the Cayman Islands. The same species of coral can look very different when they grow 10 meters underwater versus 50 meters, because those individuals have had to adapt to survive given different conditions like light availability, temperature variability, and nutrient flow. But little is known about exactly how they do so. If we understand the mechanisms of coral adaptation, maybe we can help more corals survive in the face of rapid, human-caused climate change."

This project began earlier this year with scientists photographing and collecting samples from corals at various depths to get baseline information on genetic composition, physiology, and skeletal structure. They will next cross-transplant selected individual corals between deep and shallow reefs, documenting changes in these corals over the course of a year, including genetic alterations, skeletal differences and variations in the number of symbiotic algae present in the corals, which they depend upon for food. Supported by the US National Science Foundation-Binational Science Foundation of Israel (NSF-BSF), researchers are also comparing the data gathered from this experiment in Little Cayman with corals subjected to the same experiments



H. Nativ - Morris Kahn Marine Research Station

in the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea for a wider basis of understanding.

Researchers also want to understand if these changes are then passed on genetically to future generations. To do this, researchers will monitor larval release from these corals, collect the larvae from different depths and then settle them under the various conditions (from deep to shallow and vice versa). The larvae and newly settled ju-

veniles will subsequently be assessed for growth, survival, and variations in physiology, morphology, and gene expression.

"Human-caused climate change is subjecting corals to conditions beyond their normal limits, thus we're in a period of rapidly declining reef health worldwide. However, some species and some individuals display the capacity to survive," said Dr. Goodbody-Gringley.

"Dr. Mass and I are interested in understanding the ability of some corals to persist in our changing climate."

Dr. Mass is presenting a talk on her research this Friday, December 9, at 5 pm at the George Town Public Library. Attendance is free but space is limited, so the Central Caribbean Marine Institute is requesting interested attendees register online at <https://donate.reefresearch.org/tmass22>

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► (L-r) Cousin Samuel Young Junior, sister Olympian Jillian Crooks, father Jimmy Crooks, mother Faith Crooks, brother Jerome Crooks and FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks listen to Hon. Bernie Bush Minister for Youth & Sports at the Heroes Square reception held by the Ministry of Youth, Sports on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.



► The crowd point to FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks when asked who is the reason why they are at Heroes Square, at the reception held by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage at Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.

# A Hero's Welcome for Crooks in Heroes Square



► L-r: Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, in the company of FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks and Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton at the reception held by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage at Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.

FINA Men's 50M Freestyle World Champion, Jordan Crooks received a hero's welcome and a standing ovation following his World Championship winning race in Melbourne Australia. A reception to honour the young Caymanian was hosted by the Hon. Bernie Bush and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage (MYSCH), on Wednesday night (21 December 2022). Moreover, the Cayman Islands Government announced its desire to award Jordan Crooks a sum of CI \$25,000 in recognition of being the first World Champion winner for the Cayman Islands. Further details on this award will be issued in due course as there are gov-

erning guidelines and policies to be considered.

The public ceremony was held just four days after his incredible race at the FINA World Championships. Elected officials including His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper; Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton; Deputy Premier, Hon. Christopher Saunders; Minister for Health, Wellness & Home Affairs, Hon. Sabrina Turner; Minister for Tourism & Transport, Hon. Kenneth Bryan; Parliamentary Secretaries Ms Heather Bodden and Mr. Isaac Rankine, and MYSCH Acting Chief Officer Ms Joan West-Dacres were among the well-wishers in attendance.

MYSCH's Acting Deputy Chief Officer (Youth & Sports) Ms Melissa Whorms opening remarks noted the wider significance of Jordan's victory. "Normally World Champions are those we see on television, ones that we do not know or will ever meet but with much Caymanian pride, I can say we now have a World Champion, one that is very much real and one of us. Thank you for being a role model to our youth and an inspiration to us all."

During his speech Minister Bush congratulated the 20-year-old, who boasted an astonishing 20.31 during the Championship, and tying for 4th overall on

the all-time performers list over the short course distance. His final swim in the 50M freestyle event brought home the gold for the Cayman Islands. Minister Bush also gave credit to others: "In recognising your record-making accomplishment we must also thank those who provided support over the years. Starting with your parents: Faith and Jimmy Crooks. From as far back as Jordan's mother can remember water has been part of this island boy's life. It was they who introduced you to swimming as a toddler, and they who later took you for formal swimming lessons and from competition to competition. Their love was shown in the investment of the time and money they gave to help you realise your dreams. Let us not forget your sister Jillian who is your biggest cheerleader but probably also your biggest competition in and out of the pool, always standing behind you."

Making his address, Premier, Hon. G. Wayne Panton noted that Caymanians and the government were incredibly proud of Jordan and his accomplishments. "Ladies and gentlemen, Minister Bush didn't choose Heroes Square by accident but because he knew that you are a hero to our people and to our young people in particular."

The applause as much as it goes to you Jordan it goes to your parents as well, because while we need great role models like you, we also need great role models like your parents. I can't tell you how much we all feel and love the kind of support it takes so our young people, our children, can be able achieve what you have achieved. It is an integral part of my motto of 'Community Builds Country' because it starts with the families, it starts in the communities and we build stronger countries as a result," the Premier added.

Secretary General of the Cayman Islands Olympic Committee Mr. Carson



► FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks gives remarks at the reception held in his honour by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage in Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.

► Attendees listen to speakers at the reception given in honour of FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks held by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage in Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.

# A Hero's Welcome for Crooks

CONTINUED FROM Page 10

Ebanks called the gold medal and World Championship result: "An outstanding accomplishment by a phenomenal young Caymanian. The world has a population of approximately eight billion people and a young and very talented Jordan Crooks from the Cayman Islands with a population of approximately 70,000 bravely faced the best swimmers in the world and outswam them all, bar none."

Also adding his congratulations, Cayman Islands Aquatic Sports Association (CIASA) President, Mr. Stephen Broadbelt outlined Crooks' decade-long swimming career, adding: "Christmas came early for the Cayman Islands but this was not a gift given, this gift was earned by Jordan. I will remember exactly where I was when he hit that wall. I will remember that in 10 years from now in 20 years from now."

Broadbelt spoke about Jordan's determination and said that he has used Jordan's story as an example of resiliency to show what is possible if you do not give up.

Both the CIASA President and Minister Bush confirmed that for Cayman's swimmers to continue on this trajectory the much-anticipated 50M pool will need to be built and that plans and discussions for that project were already in the works before this impressive triumph.

Honoree Mr. Jordan Crooks responded from the podium with a special thanks for the support of his parents, family and close friends who helped him to achieve such an accomplishment.

After receiving a Caymanite plaque Crooks met well-wishers, signing autographs and taking pictures until the reception ended.



► FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks signs autographs after the ceremony honouring him held by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage in Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.



► Hon. Bernie Bush Minister for Youth & Sports gives remarks during a reception hosted by his Ministry for FINA 50M Freestyle World Champion Jordan Crooks in Heroes Square on Wednesday, 21 December 2022.

# CHINA GRAPPLES WITH A HUGE COVID RESURGENCE



## By Staff Writer

World attention is once again being focused on China over Covid-19, this time over the explosion in the number of cases following the Chinese government's forced decision recently to ease its extremely restrictive lockdowns.

Official estimates indicate that some 250 million people, almost a fifth of the Chinese population, caught Covid in the first 20 days of December.

Early in December, the communist country where the outbreak of the pandemic was first traced in 2019, started rolling back its restrictions, the longest lasting and most severe globally.

But that only came after the country was swept by a wave of protests as people objected to the state-imposed limitations on their movement and the rigorous testing requirements which had been out in place closing down entire cities and states in some instances.

The nationwide protests were the most widespread since the 1989 Tiananmen protests which were limited to a single region.

Called the "zero Covid" restrictions, the measures were aimed at restricting the spread of the virus while much of the world opened up after extensive vaccination campaigns after the pandemic took a deadly toll worldwide.

China also faced criticism from some western nations for the severity of the restrictions and their perceived impact on human rights. However, within weeks of the curbs being lifted, China which has some of the lowest Covid-19 vaccination rates in the world, is again faced with a rapidly spreading wave of infections.

The British government is advising UK travellers to China to be aware of the current situation.

"China is currently experiencing its largest COVID-19 outbreak, and there may be an increased risk of infection. You should ensure you have a supply of medication for

COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms. COVID-19 restrictions have been significantly relaxed, but some restrictions remain in place across mainland China. Even where restrictions have formally been lifted, local authorities and businesses may still require proof of a negative COVID-19 test result to access services. Although city-wide lockdowns have been lifted, further localised lockdowns may be imposed. You should check carefully before you travel, as local arrangements are liable to change at short notice."

Some international media reports state that China's National Health Commission (NHC) has stopped publishing daily Covid-19 data, amid concerns about the reliability of the figures after infections exploded in the wake of an abrupt easing of tough restrictions.

According to one global media outlet, 'the sudden halt to the reporting of daily infection and death totals comes as concerns grow around the lack of vital information made available since Beijing made sweep-

ing changes to its zero-Covid policy that put hundreds of millions of its citizens under lockdown and battered the world's second-largest economy'.

It's also reported that despite the record surge of infections, the NHC had reported no Covid deaths nationwide for four consecutive days before halting the data release. The Chinese government is said to have narrowed its definition of a Covid death, counting only those from Covid-caused pneumonia or respiratory failure.

In a special report, the Chinese state-controlled CGTN said that Chinese researchers are optimistic about the situation, with Omicron being the dominant virus for the time being.

It quotes one of the country's leading epidemiologists as saying that the proportion of severe and critical cases of the disease among all confirmed cases in China has dropped from 16.47 per cent in 2020 to 3.32 per cent in 2021, and down to 0.18 per cent a few weeks ago.

## POLICE NEWS

### Police Recover Firearm and Ammunition, Three Persons Arrested

Police proactive operations continue in response to the recent increase in armed robbery incidents. This week, as a result of these operations, police recovered a loaded firearm and several rounds of ammunition from two separate vehicles following searches in Prospect and of a residence in North Side. Three persons have been arrested on suspicion of possession of an unlicensed firearm, as a result of the recoveries.

The three persons, two men aged 20 of Bodden Town and North Side, and a woman aged 21 of East End, remain in custody as investigations continue.

"As we reiterated in the press briefing held earlier this week, we continue to diligently pursue and investigate the persons involved in recent occurrences

of violent crime," says Acting Commissioner of Police Kurt Walton. "The public will see continued examples of intensified police activity, such as what occurred in the South Sound and Prospect areas this week, as our operations continue.

The recovery of this firearm, ammunition, and the arrests of three persons, are part of our strategy of disrupting the activities of the individuals involved in these incidents. Our detectives are currently working diligently to complete investigation files which will be submitted to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution for charging decisions. Meanwhile, our proactive teams continue to seek out other persons, vehicles, and premises involved."

### Police Investigate Robbery in Cayman Brac

Shortly after 11:50PM on Thursday, 22 December, officers responded to a report of a robbery at a bar on West End East Road in Cayman Brac. It was reported that a masked man had entered the bar carrying a machete. The man took a quantity of cash from the register, along with cigarettes and personal items, and then fled on foot. No one was injured during the incident.

The suspect is described as being of solid build, about 5'7"-5'8" in height, and was wearing a light-coloured hooded sweater and dark pants.

On Christmas Eve, 24 December, a team of firearms officers conducted an operation in Cayman Brac, assisted by the Air Operations Unit and local officers. During the operation, officers arrested a man, age 40, currently residing in Cayman Brac, on



suspicion of robbery, in relation to the incident on Thursday, 22 December.

The man was further arrested in relation to burglary incidents which he is wanted for in Grand Cayman. He remains in custody as investigations continue, and is being transported to Grand Cayman.

The matter is currently under investigation and anyone with any information is asked to contact the Cayman Brac Police Station at 948-0331.

# JA remains a celeb magnet

Jamaica is attracting the likes of Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Afrobeats star Burna Boy to its shores at this time of year. The island is always a hot spot for celebs at Christmas, especially Americans. Actress Tracee Ellis Ross was there as well as Cardi B and her husband rapper Offset.

Trudeau headed to Jamaica over Christmas for a one-week vacation with his family. It's a working stay as Trudeau will remain in constant

contact with Ottawa during the trip and continue to be briefed and updated on issues.

His officials have checked with the federal ethics commissioners in advance of the travel to make sure it follows guidelines. Trudeau was found to be in violation of conflict-of-interest rules in 2017 after a 2016 vacation he took to the Aga Khan's private island in the Bahamas.

Then the family's flights to and from Costa Rica over the Christ-

mas holiday in 2019 cost the government about \$57,000 and thousands more were spent on flight crews' stay in San Jose.

Trudeau had to fly to Jamaica on a Royal Canadian Air Force plane for security reasons, even though it's for personal travel.

Meanwhile, Burna Boy is so in love with Jamaica he is looking to buy a home there, while he is also expected to return next year for another vacation.

The Nigerian international music sensation, whose real name is Damini Ebunoluwa Ogulu, left Jamaica last week from Montego Bay. Burna Boy and his entourage headed to Lagos, Nigeria on a private jet for the 11-hour journey.

On leaving, Burna Boy was met by Jamaican government officials Delano Seivewright and Odette Dyer who presented him with local souvenirs. He vacationed at Tryall Club and partied at Yush, Taboo and 2727 in Montego Bay after wowing fans with a performance at the National Stadium. He also spent time in Kingston. Burna Boy professed his love for the island and its people to Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett.



► Tracee Ellis Ross enjoyed JA



► Justin Trudeau with his family

Also in Jamaica was Governor of Maryland, Wes Moore, who departed after spending time at Rose Hall, St James over Christmas.

Caribbean hopes are high that the recovery from over two years of Covid will continue with robust growth into 2023 and beyond. The Cayman Islands is certainly recovering well with its tourism numbers, especially in the cruise industry, judging by the frequency of ships visiting over the festive season.

Most Caribbean countries continue to show a strong recovery

in visitor arrivals compared with other regions of the world, according to the United Nations World Tourism Organisation's latest data. Visitor arrivals in the Caribbean though July 2022 reached 82% of the same time period in 2019, while global arrivals stood at 57% in the same timeframe.

The Dominican Republic is the most buoyant with the US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Curacao, Turks & Caicos, Aruba and Antigua and Barbuda making the biggest recoveries.

## St Kitts uncovers marriage scam



► St Kitts is clamping down on scam marriages

St Kitts and Nevis has discovered a widespread illegal marriage scam in its Spanish community.

A ring involving illegal marriages with a possible link to human trafficking has been exposed by the authorities in St Kitts and Nevis. Prime Minister Dr Terrance Drew announced in Parliament that members of the Spanish community are obtaining their citizenship and voting rights through this scam.

Drew explained that while some marriages are genuine, many only do it for the money. Once they are married, these

individuals fly to the country where they receive their certificate of citizenship and are paid a sum of money to be included in the voter's list. Drew revealed that many of them divorce and remarry repeatedly to receive more money.

"I went to a meeting with the Spanish community and they have legitimate concerns, which we have to address because, as was said, we cannot treat people less than human; but at the same time, every country must have rules, laws and regulations as I said to them," Drew said.

## Dominica is in full carnival swing



► Dominica's children's carnival is brilliant

Dominica has started a series of carnival events that will include its Children's Carnival in Grand Bay on 19 February. The event is part of the Real Mas series which started just before Christmas. The children's event will be hosted by South City Live under the theme 'A Sizzling Explosion'. It will feature fun costumes, music, food, and various other fun activities.

The Carnival of Dominica features numerous activities and competitions, and

stage shows such as calypso, Soca Monarch, Miss Teen Dominica and Carnival Princess Show. The fun events for the children include Kiddies Carnival and Grand Bay Children's Carnival.

There will also be the Dominica Pinknic event. The theme is Better with Friends. The organisers ask people to experience the pink and classy side of Dominica with Pinknic by Bes Lyfe Experience. Dominica hosts its full adults' carnival from 14 January till 22 February.



► Minister for Education, District Administration & Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly addresses the audience at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Theoline L. McCoy Primary School.



► An image of the new multipurpose hall to be constructed at the Theoline L. McCoy Primary School.

# Ministry of Education (MoE) Breaks Ground for New Theoline McCoy Primary School Hall



► front Ms. Cherry-Ann Mungroo, Ms. Lyneth Monteith, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton, His Excellency Governor Martyn Roper, Ms. Heather Bodden, Hon. Dwayne Seymour, Deputy Premier, Hon. Chris Saunders, Mr. Mark Ray and Hon. Kenneth Bryan take part in the ceremonial groundbreaking activity. Standing in the background are (l-r) Mr. Dennis Harris (PWD), Mr. Alan Robinson (DES), Mr. Dudley Ramsay (PWD), Mr. Clive Baker and The Phoenix Group Director, Mr. Brent McComb.

The Ministry of Education (MoE) on Tuesday, (13 December) broke ground for the new Theoline L McCoy Primary School Hall. The 14,136 Square foot multi-purpose facility will have a minimum shelter capacity of 600 persons and feature a commercial-grade kitchen and a large stage.

In her welcome to the Groundbreaking Ceremony, Ms. Lyneth Monteith, Acting Chief Officer (MoE), outlined a few benefits students would derive from the new hall. She said, "We will soon be able to provide the children

of the Theoline McCoy Primary School with a space to assemble, have school meals and engage in indoor sporting activities, allowing them even greater opportunities to thrive."

His Excellency Governor Martyn Roper added, "The construction of the new hall, which will also serve as a hurricane shelter, reflects the Government's commitment to the future of our community and our young people in delivering a quality education."

Preliminary work on the hall commenced earlier this month, with the

project managed by The Public Works Department (PWD) and The Phoenix Group responsible for the construction.

Also speaking at the event was Hon. Dwayne Seymour, Deputy Speaker and Parliamentary Secretary for Labour, Housing & Transport. He outlined his interest in the school's continuous growth and lauded the Minister for Education, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly for her vision for education and work to ensure schools' development.

Mr. Seymour further committed to renaming the new hall in honour of retired

Bodden Town Primary School Principal, Mrs. Francine Gardener.

In acknowledging Mr. Seymour's remarks, the Minister for Education commended his vested interest in his former school. She added, "He knew what it was like to be at this school and not have the necessary infrastructure to excel and break those glass ceilings for obtaining an excellent education. He never forgot from whence he came or the teacher who had his best interest at heart."



► Members of the Theoline L. McCoy Primary School Choir perform during the groundbreaking ceremony.



► Hon. Dwayne Seymour (l) and Deputy Premier, Hon. Chris Saunders (r) are photographed with retired educator, Mrs. Francine Gardener (c) and her sisters after Mr. Seymour's announcement that the new hall will be named in her honour.

## Ministry of Education

CONTINUED FROM Page 14

Director, Department of Education Services (DES) Mr. Mark Ray chaired the event.

Reverend Euthman Wray of the Webster Memorial United Church delivered the opening prayer, and Dr. Richard Wildman, Acting Senior School Improvement Officer, gave the vote of thanks. A performance from the Theoline McCoy Primary School choir and a rendition of the National Song sung by Genesis Bush and Sapphire Ebanks rounded out the first segment of the event.

Governor Martyn Roper, Hon. Juliana O'Connor Connolly and Hon. Dwayne Seymour participated in the groundbreaking ceremonial activities. They were joined by The Premier Hon. Wayne Panton, Deputy Premier Hon. Chris Saunders, Hon. Kenneth Bryan, Minister of Tourism & Transport and Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism & Social Development, Ms.

Heather Boddan.

Other participants included MoE Acting Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith, Director, Department of Education Services (DES); Mr. Mark Ray, MoE Facilities Manager; Mr. Clive Baker, PWD Project Manager; Ms. Cherry-Ann Mungroo and Phoenix Group Director, Mr. Brent McComb.

# CDB Approves US\$17 Million for Geothermal Energy Development in Nevis

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has approved US\$17 million in financing for a geothermal energy development project in Nevis, which is aimed at reducing electricity costs, reducing carbon emissions and increasing energy security.

On Friday, December 9, the Bank's board of directors approved the grant financing for the project which will help the Government of St Kitts and Nevis pursue the drilling of up to two geothermal production wells and one injection well. The project's goal is to establish a geothermal power plant of capacity of ten megawatts, more than enough to meet all the domestic electricity demand in Nevis.

CDB's **Director of Projects, Mr. Daniel Best** said the project could transform the energy landscape in the twin islands of St Kitts and Nevis.

*"A 10 MW geothermal power plant on Nevis can generate more than 100% of the domestic demand on Nevis. If successful, the project will go a long way to helping the Federation realise their sustainable energy goals. These include transitioning from fossil fuel-based electricity generation to entirely renewable, while expanding generation and developing an interconnection between the two islands to increase resilience by allowing for the transfer of electrical power between St Kitts and Nevis, thereby not only benefiting the people of Nevis, but the Federation as a whole"* said **Best**.

If the project achieves its initial goals, it will lay the groundwork for more ambitious goals such as expanding the Federation's geothermal energy generation beyond that required for domestic use, to possibly support production and export of green energy commodities.



The project scope includes support to the Government and Nevis Electricity Company Ltd (NEVLEC) for project preparation, such as, preliminary surveys, surface exploration and environmental and social impact assessments, which are already ongoing, as well as infrastructure works, engineering, construction services and project management, and drilling services.

Funding for the project is from CDB's Special Funds Resources (SFR), allocat-

ed from funding from the Inter-American Development Bank/Sustainable Energy Facility, the Green Climate Fund and the Government of Italy.

**Best** highlighted the economic benefits of the project for the people and government of St Kitts and Nevis, noting that currently 97% of electricity generation in the country is dependent on imported fossil fuel.

*"Like most of CDB's Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs), St Kitts and Nevis*

*is highly dependent on imported petroleum products to power its economy. This makes it vulnerable to external shocks such as those seen in the last six to 12 months due to the impacts of the war in Ukraine. It also consumes a large portion of its foreign exchange earnings. In 2018, fossil fuel imports reached as high as US\$43.4mn - approximately four per cent of gross domestic product. This project can help St Kitts and Nevis build a far more secure energy future."*

# 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

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

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### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/24

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Momma's weather mate
  - 6 Almanac contents
  - 11 Impromptu
  - 12 Hi from Ho
  - 13 Make sport of
  - 14 Bourne's portrayer
  - 15 Comfy spot
  - 17 Tater
  - 18 Hill dwellers
  - 20 "Lonely Boy" singer
  - 22 Stellar cat
  - 23 Chicken choices
  - 26 Lightning home
  - 28 Beginning
  - 29 Skilled worker
  - 31 Formerly known as
  - 32 Boot part
  - 33 Office helper
  - 34 Biting remark
  - 36 Realty unit
  - 38 Districts
  - 40 Office helpers
  - 43 Collectively
  - 44 Tuba part
  - 45 Rum drink
- DOWN**
- 1 Butter serving
  - 2 Dedicated work
  - 3 Daniel Day-Lewis film
  - 4 Sits for a portrait
  - 5 Deck toppers
  - 6 Craze
  - 7 Ketchikan native
  - 8 It points north
  - 9 Bible pronoun
  - 10 Dune makeup of
  - 16 Sea dog
  - 18 Utah ski resort
  - 19 Close
  - 21 Light gas
  - 23 Ignoble
  - 24 Abound
  - 25 Choreography bit
  - 27 Splotchy, as a horse
  - 30 In the way of
  - 33 Ordeal
  - 34 Lure
  - 35 Florence's river
  - 37 Cleveland team, for short
  - 39 Wily person
  - 41 Second person
  - 42 Match component

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

### Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

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	42
43								44				
45									46			

4-6

## Word Search

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

- Calgary
- Dartmouth
- Edmonton
- Fredericton
- Kamloops
- Kingston
- London
- Moncton
- Montreal
- Ottawa
- Paris
- Quebec
- Regina
- Sarnia
- Saskatoon
- St John
- Toronto
- Vancouver
- Victoria
- Windsor
- Winnipeg

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



Have fun with  
**CAYMANIAN  
TIMES**

## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



## THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





# Caymanian Times Classifieds

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or Mail P.O Box 322, KY1-9006

Applications are invited for the following vacancies:

### BARTENDER

#### Requirements:

- Minimum of 5 years bartending experience
- Should have knowledge of bar basics, such as terminology and familiarity of standard recipes and garnishes
- The ability to work in a high-volume bar/restaurant
- Maintain and reconcile bar float
- Some lifting required (20-50 lbs.)
- Mathematics is essential
- Knowledge of Aloha POS system
- Flexibility to work am/pm shifts, weekends, and public holidays

#### Bi-monthly wages includes:

- Hourly pay rate in the range of: CI\$ \$6.00 to CI \$10.00
- Gratuities

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVER

#### Requirements:

- Over 5 years wait-staff experience
- The ability to work in a high-volume bar/restaurant
- Provide food and beverage product knowledge
- Mathematics is essential
- Standing/walking for continuous hours
- Knowledge of Aloha POS system
- Maintain and reconcile cash float
- Flexibility to work am/pm shifts, weekends, and public holidays

#### Bi-monthly wages includes:

- Hourly pay rate in the range of: CI\$ \$6.00 to CI \$10.00
- Gratuities

### KITCHEN HELPER

#### Requirements:

- Assist Chefs with food preparation of menu items
- Comprehend the use and diversity of cleaning agents
- Monitor delivery of kitchen inventory
- Ability to lift heavy items and stand for extended periods
- General cleaning of public areas and kitchen workstations
- Flexibility to work am/pm shifts, weekends, and public holidays

#### Bi-monthly wages includes:

- Hourly pay rate in the range of: CI \$6.00 to CI \$13.00
- Gratuities

### LINE COOK/COOK

#### Requirements:

- Over 5 years culinary experience in a high-volume kitchen is essential
- Plan and coordinate menus
- Oversee inventory levels of ingredients and supplies
- Preparation of monthly food cost control reports
- Computer literacy
- Flexibility to work am/pm shifts, weekends, and public holidays

#### Bi-monthly wages includes:

- Hourly pay rate in the range of: CI \$10.00 to CI \$16.00 per hour
- Gratuities

### TEAM LEADER

#### Requirements:

- Have at least 5 years of hospitality leadership experience
- Fine dining experience is essential
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Knowledge of Aloha POS
- Computer literacy
- Flexibility to work am/pm shifts, weekends, and public holidays
- Mathematics is essential
- Prepare weekly staff schedules
- Provide staff with support and training
- Some lifting required (20-50 lbs.)

#### Bi-monthly salary includes:

- Pay rate in the range of: CI \$1,500.00 – CI \$2,000.00
- Gratuities

Health Insurance and Pension Plan provided for all positions. Employer will automatically cover its required portion

**Resumes from qualified Caymanians and PR Holders should be forwarded to:**

Our House Cayman Ltd.  
PO Box 581, KY1-1502, Grand Cayman  
or email: [info@ghrestaurants.com](mailto:info@ghrestaurants.com)

## Caymanian Times



Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the position of **Newspaper Editor/Journalist** at Caymanian Times

#### Role:

The Editor /Journalist will play a vital role in the output of Caymanian Times and its associated media endeavours across several platforms in addition to the printed paper reporting directly to and assisting the Publisher.

#### Duties and responsibilities include:

Assisting the Publisher with the complete news and current affairs production process from editorial planning to the final output of multi-platform news and current affairs content including; covering events, researching news stories, interviewing and writing, as well as on-mic and on-camera presenting in a multi-media environment.

- Editorial oversight of the general multi-platform news and current affairs output of Caymanian Times under the direction of the Publisher
- Setting and overseeing assignments of the journalism team including; staff, freelancers and contributors
- Produce and present content across the various platforms of Caymanian Times as directed by the Publisher
- Maintaining news files and archives
- Represent Caymanian Times at news and related events as directed by the Publisher
- Liaise with the production teams across the various content output of Caymanian Times as directed by the Publisher

#### Candidate profile:

- Qualification in Journalism or relevant field
- Previous journalism experience of at least five years with prior editorial management responsibility is a necessity.
- Portfolio of published articles or newscasts
- Graduate-level proficiency in the English language
- Proficiency to a professional level with news content software and digital production processes across print, online, video and audio including television and radio
- Excellent communication and networking skills
- The successful candidate must be familiar with current socio-economic and political developments in the Cayman Islands, as well as the Caribbean and global news agenda with a focus on how they relate to the Cayman Islands.
- An understanding of the history, culture, and society of the Cayman Islands is desirable.

All applicants must have a clean Police Record (no prior convictions or pending judgments), a clean Medical Record, a clean and valid Driver's License and be able to provide at least three suitable references, with two of those being from previous employers.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications but will be in the range of **CI\$4,500 to CI\$5,500** per month. Benefits will be in accordance with Cayman Islands Labour, Health Insurance and Pensions Laws.

Applications from Caymanians or those legally resident with the right to work on the island should be made in writing, enclosing resume to:

The Publisher  
Caymanian Times  
Email: [ralph@caymaniantimes.ky](mailto:ralph@caymaniantimes.ky)  
Or call Ralph 9162000



**CAYMAN AIRWAYS IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF:**

**Customer Service Agent- CTO**

**Salary: CI\$29,272 - CI\$39,377 per annum**

The Customer Service Agent (City Ticket Office), in Grand Cayman, will primarily be responsible for assisting all walk-in customers, attending to bookings, electronic ticketing and cancellation of flights, coordinating hotel and car rental reservations, assisting customers with related inquiries and providing information on special promotions. Secondary to this role, is to assist the Reservations unit with calls if and when circumstances dictate.

**Key responsibilities include:**

- Serve as an ambassador for the airline and offer premier service to all walk-in clients ensuring their transactions are completed with accuracy in a timely and effective manner.
- Ensure that all clients booking reservations are provided with accurate and vital information including ticketing deadlines, and the applicable rules and restrictions are relayed to the customers.
- Process all bookings related to Frequent Flyer travel, inclusive of booking of reservations and verification of current balances.
- Assist employees pertaining to bookings of reservations for non-revenue travel and providing and collecting the respective information.
- Facilitate booking modifications to existing reservations, including the reissuing of tickets and collection of applicable change penalties and/or upgrades.
- Collect payment for tickets and car reservations as well as applicable fees for baggage, pets, unaccompanied minors and issue gift certificates.
- Assist with answering calls on Reservations queues if and when necessary
- Balancing cash/cheques and closing daily Ticket Agent Report (TAR).
- Be responsible and accept accountability for the receipt and distribution of cash/cash float.
- Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the supervisor and/or manager.

**Qualifications, Skills & Experience:**

**Essential**

- Minimum of a high school diploma with O' level passes in Math, Geography and English
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Excellent customer service and organizational skills
- Ability to undergo seven (7) weeks of intense job training if deemed necessary
- Must be a mature and responsible person
- Ability to work under pressure with the ability to remain professional in all communication with internal and external clients
- Ability to work methodically on existing processes
- Must be computer literate
- Must be flexible to work on a shift basis and on weekends, evenings and public holidays as required; in addition to work overtime as necessary and at short notice.
- Ability to work as a team or unsupervised if necessary.

**Desirable**

- Previous airline/travel agency experience would be an asset with sound understanding of basic fares, ticketing and airline computer systems would be an asset
- Familiarity with IATA Procedures
- Being able to speak a foreign language would be an asset

Cayman Airways offers an excellent compensation package, including medical, dental, vision, and life insurance and travel benefits.

Applications from suitably qualified Caymanians, Caymanian Status holders, spouses of Caymanians or legal residents with the right to work should be submitted to:

Human Resources

Cayman Airways

PO Box 10092

Grand Cayman KY1-1101

Or email: [jobs@caymanairways.net](mailto:jobs@caymanairways.net)

Applicants must submit a Cayman Airways Application Form along with Resume and any supporting documents, if applicable.

The Cayman Airways Application Form is available at:

<https://www.caymanairways.com/career>

The deadline for receipt of applications is **10<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**

Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.

**Food & Beverage Server needed**

- Day to day service of bar and restaurant Tables
- Communication skills on the phone for take-out orders
- Cash out skills
- Open and closing duties
- Keeping restaurant clean at all times

**Qualifications**

- 5 yrs F&B experience
- Willing to work shifts, weekends and public holidays
- Knowledge of sports and schedules
- Computer literacy
- Must have knowledge of Aloha POS
- Inventory checks

Salary \$5.50 per hour plus gratuities

All parties must provide clean Police record.

Please send resume

[Pds069@yahoo.com](mailto:Pds069@yahoo.com)

PD's

**LINE COOK**

Must have knowledge of all food handling, health and safety.

- 6 years' experience in fast kitchen environment, be exible to work in all stations of the kitchen.
- Be able to work with different members of staff.
- Skills to include and not limited too, be able to work cook in a fast kitchen environment, the skills to prep in every area of the kitchen.

Must be willing to work long shifts, weekends, public holidays and early morning, late night shifts.

Salary between \$6.50-8.00 per hr., plus all other benefits as per Cayman labour law.

Please submit resumes to

[pds069@yahoo.com](mailto:pds069@yahoo.com)

## Career Opportunities



CIBC FirstCaribbean is a major Caribbean bank offering a full range of market-leading financial services in Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Wealth Management, Credit Cards, Treasury Sales and trading and Investment Banking. We are a large, regionally listed bank in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean. The bank has over 2,600 staff; 54 branches, banking centres and offices in 15 regional markets. We are looking to fill the following position:

**Manager, Finance - Financial Reporting**

Salary, dependent on qualifications and experience, is in the range of CI\$80,870 to CI\$121,306 per annum.

The Manager, Finance, Financial Reporting is responsible for financial reporting for the Cayman Operations of FirstCaribbean International Bank (Cayman) Limited. The incumbent is also responsible for:

- The overall integrity and timeliness of financial information presented for the branches and legal entities including detailed analyses and commentary thereon on a monthly basis
- Preparing annual financial statements in accordance with IFRS
- Playing a lead role in the external audit process, acting as a liaison/coordinator for the Cayman Operations.
- Ensuring that all head office deliverables are submitted on time and accurately to facilitate monthly financial reporting.
- Assisting the Senior Finance Manager, Cayman Operations regarding business performance reporting and monitoring

**About You**

- A minimum of 5 years' prior experience working in/with financial institutions (preferably commercial banking)
- A minimum of 3 years' experience in a management/supervisory position
- Audit experience (3 years post qualification)
- Prior experience in managing external audits
- Accounting designation (ACCA/CPA/CA or other similar designation)
- In-depth knowledge of accounting principles (International Financial Reporting Standards)
- In-depth knowledge of financial instruments including investment securities, hedge accounting and complex derivative transactions

**About Our Offer**

You will have a challenging, diverse experience with opportunities for professional growth. Our compensation and reward package is attractively structured and performance bonuses are offered.

To apply for this and any other positions, kindly visit <https://www.cibcfcib.com/about-us/careers>.

Applications with detailed resumes should be submitted no later than **4 January, 2023**.

CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank Limited thanks all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration will be contacted.



LINKEDIN [cibc-firstcaribbean-international-bank](https://www.cibc-firstcaribbean-international-bank)



**FirstCaribbean**  
International Bank

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[CaymanianTimes](https://www.facebook.com/CaymanianTimes)

**3 PUBLICATIONS  
PER WEEK**

# Caymanian Times

# Advertising Rates



**Monday  
Wednesday  
Friday**

Description	CI\$	Size (inches) W x H	Maximum # of words
Newspaper Advertisement Full page	850	10 x 13.5	1200
Newspaper Advertisement 2/3 page	750	10 x 8.37 or 6.6 x 13.5	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal)	550	10 x 6.67	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (Vertical)	550	4.9 x 13.5	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/3 page	450	4.9 x 8.37	400
Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page	350	4.9 x 6.67	350
Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page	250	4.9 x 3.25 or 3.22 x 4.96	200
Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page	150	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	400	10 x 1.5	
Inserts	400		
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	Thursday
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**

**Smile Dental Clinic** is looking for an individual who is interested in training to become a Dentist Helper. This person takes responsibility for the care and cleanliness of the dental office and it's delicate equipment.

Most tasks are carried out after hours, during evenings and weekends, and involve sanitizing surfaces and equipment. Therefore the Ideal candidate would have a Health Services background and a good understanding of cross-contamination and protocols for maintaining asepsis.

Must be trustworthy and reliable with own transport.

Salary range: CI\$12.00 - \$14.00 per hour.

Mon-Fri with alternating Saturdays/Sundays

Caymanians or Status holders need only apply.

Police clearance and proof of a health services background or education required.

Write to: PO Box 10116, KY1-1001



**CAYMAN AIRWAYS IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF:**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT, RESERVATIONS**

**Salary: CI\$29,272.00 – \$39,377.00 per annum**

The Customer Service Agent (Reservations) will be responsible for handling all incoming reservation calls, attending to bookings, electronic ticketing and cancellation of flights, coordinating hotel and car rental reservations, assisting customers with related inquiries and providing information of special promotions.

**Key responsibilities:**

- Serve as an ambassador for the airline and offer premier service to all call-in clients ensuring their transactions are completed with accuracy in a timely and effective manner
- Ensure that all callers booking reservations are provided with accurate and vital information including ticketing deadlines, and the applicable rules and restrictions are relayed to the customer
- Process all bookings related to Frequent Flyer travel, inclusive of booking of reservations and verification of current balances
- Receive and assist with all incoming calls from employees pertaining to bookings of reservations for non-revenue travel and providing and collecting the respective information
- Facilitate booking modifications to existing reservations, including the re-issuing of tickets and collection of applicable change penalties and/or upgrades
- Update flight recording for daily schedules providing flight arrival and departure time for all CAL flights including any schedule changes
- Ensure accurate record keeping of all paper transactions
- Closing daily Reservations Ticket Agent Report (TAR)
- Assist Reservations Supervisor when required
- Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time

**Qualifications, Skills & Experience:**

**Essential**

- Minimum of a high school diploma with O' level passes in Math, Geography and English
- Strong customer service and organizational skills
- Ability to undergo seven (7) weeks of intense job training if deemed necessary
- MUST be a mature and responsible person
- Ability to work under pressure with the ability to remain professional in all communication
- Ability to work methodologically on existing processes
- Must be computer literate
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Excellent customer service and leadership skills
- Flexibility and willingness to work on weekends, evenings and public holidays on a roster basis

**Desirable**

- Ability to speak a foreign language (preferably Spanish)
- Previous airline/travel agency experience would be an asset with sound understanding of basic fares, ticketing and airline computer systems would be an asset
- Familiarity with IATA Procedures

**Training**

**• Must attend and successfully complete a 4-6 weeks training program and maintain an average of 80% grade point average**

Cayman Airways offers an excellent compensation package, including medical, dental, vision insurance, and travel benefits.

Applications from suitably qualified Caymanians, Caymanian Status holders, spouses of Caymanians or legal residents should submit the Cayman Airways Application Form along with Resume and any supporting documents to [jobs@caymanairways.net](mailto:jobs@caymanairways.net)

The Cayman Airways Application Form is available at:  
<https://www.caymanairways.com/career>

The deadline for receipt of applications is **10<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.**

Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.

# **Caymanian** **Times**

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