

# Times Caymanian

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Complimentary





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# Destination: Grand Cayman

**By Christopher Tobutt**

Walking from the Paradise Restaurant into the heart of George Town's Waterfront – past the Baysore Mall, the museum, and Sharky's - you could see that the five cruise ships which dropped anchor on New Year's Day had filled the waterfront with tourists. The estimate of around

15,000 passengers was not the record of seven ships and 20,000 passengers set in 2018, but it was close. There they were, on both sides of South Church Street going into Seafarers Way. In family and friend groups, couples or singles, they were looking all around in

SEE GRAND CAYMAN, PAGE 6

**LIMITED TIME ONLY**

## \$10,000 REWARD



See back page

**SPIKEY-HAGGIS is still missing!**  
*(Blonde, with a distinctive scar on his left hip)*

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# WILL THIS BE THE YEAR OF THE PIER?

The year 2025 has dawned with the promise of finally resolving one of Cayman's most intractable issues.

The recurring debate which has been ebbing and flowing but is as constant as the tides which wash our shores is that of the cruise pier.

'To be or not to be' doesn't seem to be the pertinent question any longer.

From all indications that seems to have been overtaken by 'how' and 'where'.

Caymanian Times takes the position - having listened, participated and even hosted numerous discussions and interviews on the issue - that a cruise pier is not just a necessity. It's an inevitability.

We urge that the debate now be shifted to 'how and where'.

It's clear as the crystal clear waters that surround Cayman that the cruise industry is not going to adapt to suit Cayman.

The cruise sector is a global industry that's currently expanding. COVID did not sink it. In fact, the cruise industry has bounced back and is even getting bigger than before. And that's only referencing the size of the ships.

The massive investment it takes to build one of these floating resorts is only undertaken with a guarantee of a return on investment - whether short or long term. That speaks to confidence in the industry.

That confidence is shared not just by the cruise companies but also by the destinations they serve with investment in cruise ship berthing facilities.

That's the 'win-win' that we should aim for. And that approach also applies to high-end specialist cruises.

In fact, the more high-end, the more specialised the berthing facilities they demand. Cayman can attest to the past economic



benefit of the cruise industry alongside the successful land-based tourism that has been a main pillar of the economy.

But unlike other destinations which have adapted to accommodate the changes in the cruise business, Cayman has remained anchored in resistance to the general concept without allowing 'berthing space' to consider alternative options.

With the 2025 election campaign now 'setting sail' we hope to hear informed debate to address this pressing issue.

These debates should be results-oriented and not embedded in a fog of resistance.

It is of paramount importance that Cayman protects its natural environment...and that includes our coral systems.

Our environment is too precious on all levels to be sacrificed on the altar of economic progress. Our very survival depends on it.

However, our survival also depends on our ability to sustain ourselves - including maintaining the pillars of our economy.

The coming debate - referendum now or referendum later - must consider practical location and operational alternatives for a cruise pier.

We cannot allow the cruise sector to sail past Cayman due to a lack, refusal or rejection of adequate berthing facilities.

It is vital that Cayman stays on the cruise radar.

# Elections Office Extends Hours to Help Voters Register Before 15 January Deadline

The Elections Office has extended its hours for the following dates to allow persons eligible to vote to register ahead of the next registration deadline on 15 January 2025.

The Elections Office will be open tomorrow, Saturday 4 January, 2025 from 10am.

The Office will also be open from 9am to 7pm from Monday 6 January to Friday 10 January 2025.

For more information, visit elections.ky or call 949-8047




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**ELECTIONS OFFICE  
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# *Coral Beach Announces Permanent Closure on January 31, 2025, Following Lease Conclusion Amid Seven Mile Beach Erosion Impacts*



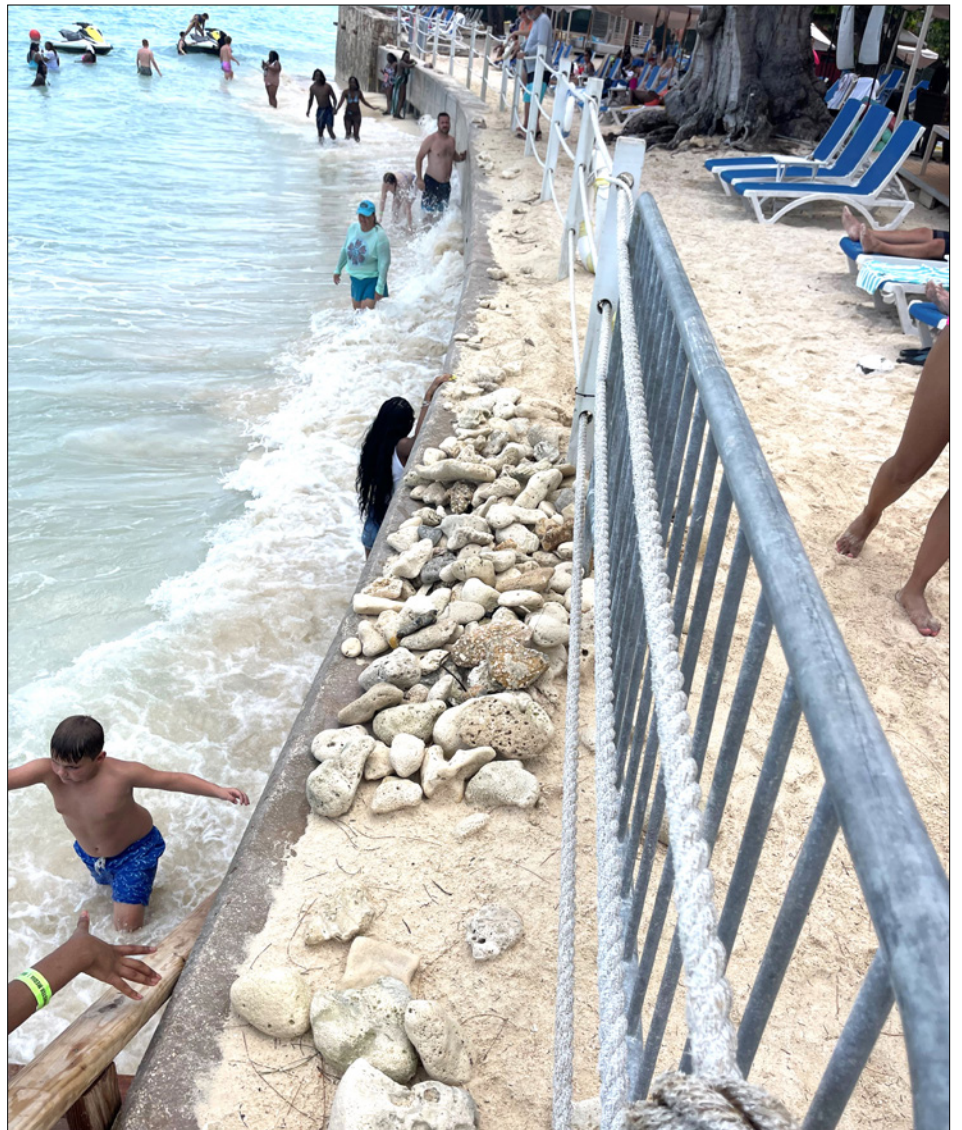
► The main bar building was demolished in the summer of 2024, following severe storm damage in February 2024 which resulted in the building being condemned.



► The Area in which the building was formally housed continues to create a large man hole with the passing storms of hurricane season



► A small cove like beach has returned for January 2025, allowing guests to enjoy the water.



► Some days the tides have been so high making it difficult for guests to enjoy the beach

Crown Jewel t/a Coral Beach announces the conclusion of their lease agreement with Landlord Cayman Shores Limited (A subsidiary of Dart) at the Coral Beach, Seven Mile Beach venue, effective 31 January 2025.

This decision comes after a prolonged period of environmental challenges, including ongoing beach erosion, diminished beach access and the demolition of the main bar building due to storm damage which have significantly impacted the ability to deliver a pleasing beach experi-

ence that guests to Seven Mile Beach deserve.

Since opening in the fall of 2019, Coral Beach has welcomed thousands of cruise ship passengers and other guests annually, offering a family-friendly venue renowned for its Island hospitality. However, shifting natural conditions have made it increasingly difficult to sustain the safety, convenience, and comfort that our guests and tourism partners rightly expect. Persistent beach erosion has reduced our beachfront, complicating seating arrange-

ments, water activities, and accessible pathways essential for a secure and enjoyable experience.

Over the past five years, Coral Beach has serviced the Cayman Islands' tourism industry well, partnering with cruise lines, tour operators, and local businesses to create meaningful experiences infused with Caymanian culture, Island cuisine, and a once breathtaking beach front. Despite ongoing efforts to adapt, the environmental challenges now limit the venues' ability to uphold these high standards and maintain a level of quality and care Coral Beach was once known for.

The Managing Director Kenny Rankin

acknowledged "The impact of this decision will greatly affect our dedicated team, trusted suppliers, service providers, and the local artisans who have been integral to our operations. To them, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation. To our loyal visitors and industry partners, thank you for allowing us to be a part of your Cayman experience. It has been our privilege to host you, and the cherished memories created at Coral Beach will live on beyond our closing".

Coral Beach will be open for business now through January 31, 2025, and invites all guests to enjoy the final days at the beach facility.



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► Cruise ship passengers on New Year's Day

► Cruise ship passengers on New Year's Day

# George Town welcomes passengers from five cruise ships on New Year's Day



► Cruise ship passengers on New Year's Day

► Jerry from New York poses for a photo with RCIPS' Offers Simone Barrett and Bradley Bregani



► Members of the Burlson and Richards Family

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

the bright sunlight of a new day, and a new year.

Despite being New Year's Day, nearly all the stores were open; stores selling high-end jewelry and watches, souvenirs and t-shirts while the bars and restaurants sold drinks snacks and meals. Nobody wanted to miss out on this large number of customers. Most would return a "Happy New Year!" if spoken to, but not many wanted to stop and talk or make eye contact. They were too busy deciding where they wanted to go.

Tour representatives with big colourful placards called out tours for Seven Mile Beach, or Crystal Caves, or Sting Ray City. One man standing in the shade outside a waterfront T-shirt and souvenir shop said his visit to Grand Cayman hadn't started very well. It was midday al-

# Grand Cayman

CONTINUED FROM Page 6

ready and his tour – all the way over to Crystal Caves at North Side, was half an hour late, although it arrived while we were still speaking, but it had been a worry. The delay had come on top of waiting for a tender from the side of the cruise ship, and a ride into the Royal Watler Terminal. Yes, of course, he would prefer it if his ship had docked alongside a permanently built dock. “But at the same time I understand a small island like this must protect its coastline,” he said.

It was the same story for many others. They had come from other destinations with nice cruise piers and so having to board a tender was a hassle and a delay which cut down the time they could spend ashore. Some said they didn’t really mind. They were just glad to be here, but for most of them it was a concern. One lady, Beth, who had come with her family, was terrified of the water and said she had seen tenders capsize. So although it wasn’t a dealbreaker (she had visited many times before) it was a big worry. “It’s lovely, it’s pretty. The water’s beautiful. It’s just very expensive,” she said. “Everything’s more expensive here but we love the people. We’ve always had great tour guides here, and we’ve always had great experiences.”

Another group were stay-over tourists but had started visiting Cayman as cruise tourists – part of the one or two per-cent who make the transition. “Last time we came was in 2019 and it seems to have changed since then. I am not sure how, but I think it has changed – lost something,” was the opinion of Marie, one of the ladies in the group. “We come from Tennessee which is really cold at this time of year, so it is lovely to come here into the sunshine.”

“It’s great here and I love it,” said Lewis from New York. “I don’t mind getting on and off the boats. Yeah, it would be great to have permanent ports here but they don’t have the space here, and I understand that, so I don’t mind.”

His group had been busy chatting with

SEE GRAND CAYMAN, Page 8



► Shopping at the Craft Market



► Cruise ship passengers on New Year's Day



► Enjoying the waterfront and the cool breeze



► A giant octopus welcomes the cruise tourists

Even so, on the New Year's Day holiday it still became a bit of a challenge to drive through that section of the waterfront. Many tourists were walking across the road in front of slow-moving traffic, or being led in groups by tour operators. There are some proper crossing places, true, but if you are new to a place you don't always know where they are. They seemed safe enough, but it was clear that picking your way through slow-moving traffic while trying to make sure all your family has kept up and is close to you isn't the easiest thing to do.

On the other hand, the visitors walking around the pedestrianised Cardinal Avenue didn't have that problem..

One of the waitresses at a busy waterfront bar agreed that the large number of visitors was good for business. But she felt that if it had fallen on a normal working (or 'office') day, it would have been much worse.

Another couple from Florida who are frequent visitors to Cayman were clear that they would prefer the ships to come at a pier. "A dock would be much better because it would be quick and you have much more time to walk around. All the other places have docks."

## Grand Cayman

CONTINUED FROM Page 7

two friendly police officers, PC Bradley Bregani AC Simone Barrett. The passengers were asking about healthcare here, which PC Bregani said was very well-provided for, and they also talked about crime and safety. PC Bregani said he was very proud because he believed the Cayman Is-

lands is still one of the safest destinations in the Caribbean: "Very very safe," he assured..

When I asked him what he felt about the large numbers of tourists, he replied: "Its great. The more the merrier." But he feels it would have been a different story - much more chaotic - if the ships had arrived on an ordinary working day, when the streets would be more congested.





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7PM

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Cayman is home to many people with substance abuse. As a community we can all make a difference in the lives of those individuals.



# ACT Urges Leaders to Support Cruise Pier Referendum

The Association for Cruise Tourism (ACT) in the Cayman Islands is calling on local politicians to defend democracy by ensuring the people's right to vote in the much-debated referendum on cruise berthing. ACT emphasized that any attempt to block Caymanians from voicing their opinions is an attack on the people and is unacceptable.

Delivering a New Year's message to the people of the Cayman Islands, Elio Solomon, ACT's Executive Program Manager, said, "Denying our people their democratic right to vote on an issue as critical as cruise berthing infrastructure is not only unjust – it's a direct affront to the principles of fairness and transparency that underpin our society."

Solomon added: "Blocking this referendum silences the voices of Caymanians and undermines the very foundation of our democracy. Every citizen deserves the opportunity to shape the future of our islands, and any effort to prevent that is simply unacceptable." He urged leaders "for the love of country" not to use political convenience as an excuse for delaying the referendum on cruise berthing infrastructure, a move which could jeopardize Cayman's long-term economic stability and growth.



► Elio Solomon, Executive Program Manager of ACT

Solomon stated that the latest claims from opponents of the cruise pier are nothing more than fearmongering aimed at creating confusion and stalling development: "We cannot allow political maneuvering to hold our country's future hostage. Modern berthing facilities aren't just about infrastructure – they're about preserving jobs, strengthening our economy, protecting the environment, and keeping

Cayman competitive in an evolving global tourism market."

The former parliamentarian warned that continued inaction on this long-debated issue would risk pushing Cayman into economic stagnation: "We cannot afford to fall further behind ... and while politicians may face challenges with the current minority government, the voices of all Caymanians – not just a privileged few – must be heard." He also pointed to the vulnerability of the financial services sector, the backbone of the Cayman economy, to shifting global policies: "We must take bold, decisive steps now to secure Cayman's future. The next generation will thank us for it."

Noting that hesitation perpetuates uncertainty and weakens trust in the tourism sector, Solomon stated, "This is the time for leadership and vision, not excuses. We're seeing growing support across our communities, and they deserve the chance to decide Cayman's path forward."

Solomon also criticized the campaign of misinformation spread by anti-pier activists. "Opponents refuse to engage in meaningful dialogue, instead relying on scare tactics and propaganda," he said. "Their silence on securing an extended consultation period speaks volumes. Despite clam-

oring for more time on this issue, we're now hearing nothing but crickets."

He further noted that calls for cruise berthing infrastructure have spanned more than a decade, with successive governments advocating for its development. "You don't get 15 years of elected officials supporting this project unless it's a critical need for Cayman's future," Solomon said.

While critics argue that such pivotal decisions should be deferred to the next government, ACT views this moment as an opportunity to build public understanding of the cruise industry's role in the Cayman Islands' economy.

In 2025, ACT will intensify its public education campaign to highlight the benefits, challenges, and long-term impacts of cruise tourism.

"The cruise pier debate isn't just about infrastructure – it's about safeguarding the future of our tourism industry and ensuring all Caymanians benefit," Solomon concluded. "Now is the time to unite, act decisively, and make informed choices that secure Cayman's prosperity for generations to come," he noted, while passionately imploring, "Give the people a voice and a choice – it's the least a thriving democracy like ours can do."

## Grant Thornton Partners with Plastic Free Cayman to Host Safehaven Cleanup



Grant Thornton Cayman participated in "GT in the community", a global initiative launched in 2014, which mobilises Grant Thornton's 73,000 professionals across 150 markets to support local causes.

Partnering with Plastic Free Cayman,

the firm held a cleanup of the Safehaven area in West Bay, Grand Cayman, as part of their efforts to preserve the natural beauty of the Cayman Islands.

"We are grateful to Plastic Free Cayman for their collaboration and support, to our

team for their efforts on the day and to our 2024 summer interns who played a key role in planning and coordinating the day's activities," says Dara Keogh, Managing Partner of Grant Thornton (Cayman) LLP.

Plastic Free Cayman, a registered not-

for-profit, works to reduce single-use plastic in the Cayman Islands through awareness campaigns and community cleanups.

For more information on Grant Thornton's community initiatives, visit [www.granthornton.ky](http://www.granthornton.ky).

# CAYMAN MOTORING FEDERATION UNVEILS STEM RACING SUPPORTED BY F1 KIT TO IGNITE STUDENT INNOVATION



The Cayman Motoring Federation (CMF) is thrilled to announce the official unveiling of the “STEM Racing Supported by F1” (formally F1 in Schools) consumables kit, which includes the tools and resources necessary for local students to participate in this globally celebrated STEM initiative. The kit contains key components such as a professional 20m roll-out track, CNC machining equipment, model blocks with wheels and axles, and software for designing and testing miniature Formula 1 cars.

The programme, set to launch in the spring with participation from three local

schools (John Gray High School, Clifton Hunter High School, and Cayman International School), aims to culminate in a national competition before the summer break. At the heart of this initiative is a commitment to inspiring students through hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), while fostering creativity, teamwork, and innovation.

Marcus Patterson, In-Country Coordinator, described the process and the impact of the programme, “STEM Racing Supported by F1” gives students a chance to learn real-world skills by taking on the

roles of engineers, marketers, and project managers. Using advanced tools like CNC machine software, they’ll design and test their miniature F1 cars, optimizing speed and aerodynamics. It’s an experience that merges the excitement of competition with practical learning.”

John Gray High School has been designated as the Center of Excellence, playing a pivotal role in this inaugural year with full support from Principal, Jonathan Clark. The CMF expressed gratitude to the teachers and leaders at all participating schools for their dedication to this groundbreaking initiative.

The programme would not have been possible without the generous support of Cayman Customs Automotive and Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC).

Eoghan Ryan, Cayman Customs Automotive, shared his thoughts on supporting F1 in Schools, “As a business that thrives on innovation and precision, we’re proud to invest in a programme that nurtures those same values in young minds. This is a chance for students to develop skills that will serve them for life, whether they pursue a career in motorsports, engineering, or any other field.”

Sacha Tibbetts, Vice President at CUC, echoed the sentiment, “CUC is committed to powering the future of our community, and that includes fostering education and innovation. We’re excited to see how this programme will ignite the imagination of our students, empowering them to dream big and achieve great things.”

Jane Scaletta, President of the Cayman Motoring Federation, celebrated the collaboration and potential of the programme, “This initiative is about more than racing; it’s about building the skills, confidence, and resilience of our youth. With the support of our sponsors, the dedication of our schools, and the enthusiasm of our students, we’re paving the way for a brighter, more innovative future.”

The Cayman Motoring Federation invites the community to support these ambitious students as they prepare for their national competition and, ultimately, strive for excellence on the world stage.



# Postal Service and Sunrise Centre Continue Partnership

The Cayman Islands Postal Service (CIPS) is proud to continue their partnership with the Sunrise Adult Training Centre (SATC) by offering two Caymanian clients the opportunity to gain valuable work experience and grow their skills through a 12-month internship.

In 2024, the SATC approached CIPS about providing internship opportunities for its clients. After evaluating areas where their skills could make a meaningful impact, CIPS identified two positions where assistance was needed.

With the recent expansion of the Letter Sorting Quality System, which monitors and reports on the quality of domestic letter mail sorting and supplements the Global Monitoring System, there was a pressing need for additional data-entry support. SATC identified a Caymanian client with prior data-entry experience who was an ideal match for the role. Due to space constraints within CIPS facilities, SATC collaborated with CIPS to provide workspace at SATC's location, with CIPS supplying the necessary equipment. This arrangement enables SATC staff to provide on-site support while allowing the client to participate in other SATC activities. Another Caymanian SATC client with the relevant administrative experience was brought on to provide much-needed



► Postal Service and Sunrise Centre Continue Partnership

support to the CIPS' Human Resources team, with tasks such as filing and scanning HR-related documents.

CIPS Postmaster General Ms. Sheena Glasgow stated, "This partnership with SATC is a testament to the power of community collaboration and creative problem-solving. By welcoming these talented individuals into our team, we're not only addressing operational needs but also fostering a culture of inclusion and empowerment. I wish to acknowledge the Deputy Postmaster General, Ms. Melissa

Martinez-Ebanks as the CIPS' driving force in identifying suitable work and then collaborating with SATC staff to create this win-win partnership."

These internships follow the resounding success of SATC clients' involvement in secretariat duties during the Universal Postal Union and Caribbean Postal Union conferences held in June 2024. SATC clients contributed significantly to the smooth operation of the event by assisting with registration desks, distributing materials, providing directions, and addressing

delegates' needs. Their professionalism and dedication earned widespread applause from conference attendees, highlighting the importance of creating inclusive opportunities in professional settings.

Ms Glasgow went on to add, "I challenge other entities, government and private sector alike, to some creative problem-solving of their own, and create even more inclusive partnerships with the SATC and their clients."

SATC Director Kimberly Voaden expressed, "The Sunrise Adult Training Centre is deeply grateful to the CIPS for their recognition and appreciation of our clients' skills and talents, and the value CIPS has placed on the contributions made by persons with disabilities. CIPS' commitment to creative collaboration with SATC's Vocational Programme has resulted in a significant number of inclusive and meaningful training and employment opportunities for our clients. Through this partnership, our clients are not only developing their professional skills, but also building their confidence and independence."

SATC welcomes potential employment partners who may be interested in exploring collaboration opportunities to contact them at [infoSATC@gov.ky](mailto:infoSATC@gov.ky) or call (345) 949-3330 or (345) 938-3330.

# Opposition to Proposed Changes to Conservation Act, Concerns Raised Over Risks and Governance

The proposed amendments to the National Conservation Act have drawn strong criticism from the political group comprising the four MPs who resigned in November, along with former Premier Wayne Panton.

The National Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2024, includes changes that reduce the powers of the National Conservation Council (NCC) and shift key decision-making authority to the Cabinet. Critics have flagged significant risks associated with these amendments, as well as the government's timing of the bill's gazettal and its broader approach to advancing controversial legislation as a minority government.

"This proposed amendment represents a step backward for Cayman," said Wayne Panton. "When the original National Conservation Law was unanimously passed under my stewardship in 2013, it was a landmark moment in protecting our islands' natural heritage. The Law received support from all members of the Legislative Assembly after more than a decade of debate and discussion across successive administrations. It reflected a collective commitment to safeguarding our environment for future generations. These proposed changes gut the intent of that law and open the door to bad governance and political interference in matters that should be guided by science and sustainability."

The amendments undermine account-



► Wayne Panton, MP

ability by weakening the NCC's authority, giving Cabinet greater control over conservation decisions, and removing key checks and balances. This shift risks prioritising special interests and politics over science, jeopardising critical conservation efforts, and eroding public trust in environmental protections.

"The proposed changes mean that the Caymanian people will lose critical protections, as Cabinet has exempted itself from oversight. This means major projects such as the George Town port, the airport, major roads, a new solid waste facility or landfill, and even the touted new port in Breakers could proceed without requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)," added Panton.

"The original Act was a foundation for a sustainable future, carefully balancing development with environmental stewardship," said Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, former Minister of Sustainability. "As someone who has championed sustainable development, I am very concerned by the weakening of protections for critical habitats and the dilution of the Council's authority. This move signals a disregard for the hard work of so many Caymanians who fought to protect our unique natural environment."

"The passage of the NCA over the past 10 years has clearly not hindered development—on the contrary, development has surged at an alarming pace, a trend that deeply concerns many Caymanians. These proposed amendments are unnecessary and, even more troubling, could further accelerate overdevelopment and lead to irreversible destruction," added Ebanks-Wilks.

The group also criticised the timing of the Bill's gazettal, which, while technically meeting the requirement for a 28-day consultation period, appears to undermine meaningful public engagement. "The Bill was gazetted on New Year's Eve, a time when most people are celebrating with family and unlikely to engage with important legislative updates," said André Ebanks, former Deputy Premier. "This timing raises serious questions about the government's commitment to transparency and public input."

Adding to their concerns, the group pointed to other controversial legislation that the minority government is seeking to push through before the end of its term. These include the proposed Referendum Bill and other significant transactions.

"We are deeply concerned about the minority government attempting to advance and finalise significant and controversial matters that require Parliamentary approval," Ebanks said. "These highlight key reasons the four of us chose to resign. The transactions and Bills currently under consideration were being contemplated prior to our resignation, and we did not wish to be bound by, or advocate for them. As a current member of the House Business Committee, I will not support adding this Bill to the upcoming meeting's agenda."

He continued, "Despite its diminished numbers, the minority government appears determined to proceed with these matters before the end of its term, for reasons that remain unclear. Such important decisions should be handled by a new government with a clear electoral majority. It would be more appropriate for the current minority government to focus solely on day-to-day operations until the April 2025 election."

Protecting our environment is not optional; it's essential to preserving our way of life for generations to come," Panton said. "We cannot allow political convenience to take precedence over conservation."

# Sustaining our Seas



## Sustainable Cayman

Emerging from the depths of the Western part of the Caribbean Sea is the land of soft, fresh breezes: the Cayman Islands. At the summit of an ancient limestone mountain peak, our abundant marine world is what it is today largely in part due to our exceptionally deep waters, geological makeup, and regional position. That limestone was forged by millennia of water, heat from the volcanic vents of the Cayman Trench, and our unique marine biodiversity coexisting. To add to the wonder of our sub-sea foundation, we would be remiss not to highlight that it is an epic, vast, ancient skeleton of countless animals – corals – which provides a base for living corals to thrive, a habitat for keystone species like our national symbol the turtle, and resilience to protect what we hold dear. Those who value Cayman should know how fortunate we are to be a hotspot for biodiversity and recognize our innate responsibility to reciprocally protect the habitats and food sources of our culturally iconic plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world.

One reason our beautiful isles are so biodiverse is thanks to our vibrant, but delicate coral reefs, which serve as habitats and nurseries for a vast array of marine species such as the Nassau Grouper and sand producers like parrotfish. By regulating sediment flow, coral reefs help maintain our trademark waters of palest emerald that is essential for marine plants like seagrass to photosynthesize and be a component of the marine food web that sustains our beloved turtles. Reefs also provide our coastal community with essential services and support tourism through their natural beauty. Along with mangroves and seagrasses, our strong reefs act as natural barriers, reducing wave energy and protecting Cayman's shores from erosion and storm damage. Disruptions to this natural state, such as from pollution or destruction due to human activities or climate change, have been shown to have devastating cascading effects on us... remember that Nor'wester in February?

We, the co-authors of this article, have spent countless hours in the sea, particularly exploring and learning about Cayman's beloved coral reefs through snorkeling in the George Town Harbour and freediving among the caves of our very own Blue Hope Spot, Eden Rock. It is here where our knowledge of the coral reefs blossomed further, as we observed majestic eagle rays sift through the sandy seabed and chromatic Caribbean reef squid dance among sea fans. While observing, we can't help but think that our ancestors also took immense pride in connecting with the sea, for social and/or economic benefit. We also admire that, over time, our ancestors learned that the dynamic currents that flow through the George Town Harbour directly contribute to the pristine white sand that Seven Mile Beach is known for.

Fond memories spent underwater, along the shoreline, in the mangroves exploring



or fishin', and learning about our maritime heritage from retired seafarers and catboat builders all shaped our understanding of the importance of preserving our marine environment – ensuring these islands which were founded upon the seas are honored, our natural world is respected, and our kin can prosper from its conservation. Mesmerizing schools of tropical fish, vibrant corals, rare sights like octopi and seahorses, and apex predators like barracudas and sharks deepened our respect for the ocean. Seeing firsthand these sacred sites and species slowly dwindle, but revive during a lull in vessels regularly navigating the George Town Harbour, solidified our intrinsic responsibility to steward the seas and reefs which are already fragile due to manmade impacts, and to inspire others to do the same.

Void of life and dull – adjectives to describe a desert, not the underwater oasis that the George Town Harbour area boasts. Nature gives us everything we need and asks for only one thing in return – that we do our part to ensure it remains a healthy and safe place for vibrant biodiversity, and thus ourselves, to flourish. To do otherwise, unsustainably developing or exacerbating the manmade climate crisis, would truly land us in hot water. Genuine patriotism looks like safeguarding the reefs, mangroves, and marine resources that we love and rely on as Island people, not exploiting them. Our elders raised us to be humble, cautioned us to hear so we don't feel, and instilled in us that we need more sense than dollars. Protecting the George Town Harbour respects that heritage, which was shaped over time knowing that resourcefulness is vital to our cultural identity and socioeconomic health.

In heeding ancestral guidance relied on in decades past, today, we see that not fixing what isn't broken has had secondary benefits such as ease of travel through town due to the seasonal, reasonable flows of visitors arriving by tender. Consider the alternative, consider that nature's biggest lesson is that balance is critical, and consider that perhaps the best ships to call to our port are those of leadership, partnership, guardianship, mentorship, sportsmanship, and fellowship. In closing, dear reader, we ask: how could our hearts not enshrine these verdant islands set in the blue Caribbean Sea? How could we not feel beckoned to harmoniously steward the glorious marine tapestry of our homeland fair Cayman Isle as our ancestors did? How could we not protect our paradise so that we and future generations can behold the creative glory reflected everywhere?

**By: Connor Childs & Em DeCou, Sustainable Cayman Ambassadors**

# 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

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

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### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/16

Difficulty Level ★★★

10/17

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Last Greek

1 Fall flower letter

6 Drunkards 42 Pigs

10 River boat 43 Worker with a pick

11 Use the gym 44 Sirius, for one

13 Self-evident truth 45 Ledger item

14 Like gymnasts

15 Foot part

16 Summer mo.

18 Rent out

19 Seal of approval

22 Luau

music maker

23 A single time

24 Ninnies

27 Summed

28 Orange cover

29 Need to pay

30 Carrying out of laws

35 Commo-tion

36 "— a deal!"

37 Compete

38 Writer Lessing

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

### Saturday's answer

9 Library request 27 Impres-sive

12 Pulled in 29 Fall mo.

17 Employ 31 Stair part

20 Surpass 32 News

21 Internet subject

connector 33 Neighbor

24 Sneaker of

features Chad

25 Wall 34 Sorrowful

features 39 One —

26 Due to be million

punished 41 Hr. part

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			

12-3

## Word Search

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

- Bludgers
- Dudley
- Dumbledore
- Fluffy
- Hagrid
- Harry
- Hermione
- Hogwarts
- Muggles
- Nimbus
- Petunia
- Potter
- Quidditch
- Ridley
- Snape
- Snitch
- Sprout
- Vernon
- Voldemort

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



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## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



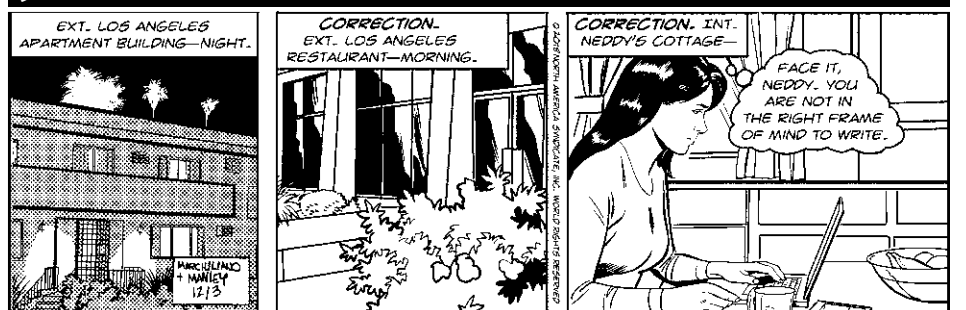
## THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



# Caymanian Times Classifieds

## Executive Administrative Assistant

We are now accepting applications for this post.

This is not a Training Position and ONLY applicants who meet the criteria set out below will be considered.

Applicants must have:

- **Minimum prior experience in similar role: 6 years**
- Minimum High School, with bachelor (or training towards same) desirable.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the workings of a Law office dealing with civil and criminal litigation, administrative law, property law and various local licensing and regulatory boards, departments and sections.
- Strong knowledge of Common law Courts. Knowledge of Cayman Islands Grand Court and Summary Court Rules and process would be a great asset.
- Must be highly analytical and able to conduct operational reviews and provide analysis on systems and remedies to improve law office systems and process and provide guidance to junior staff on best practices of a boutique firm.
- Previous experience in assisting an attorney in legal process, including proficiency with legal platforms would be a huge plus.
- Strong case and office management skills.

Salary KYD3000.00 - 4000.00 per month plus benefits.

Send resumes to: **Executive Administrative Assistant**, PO Box 10134, Grand Cayman, KY1-1002 or via email to [pebanks@phillipebankslaw.com](mailto:pebanks@phillipebankslaw.com) Deadline for applications 17 January 2025.

## Liberty's Restaurant F & B Server

- Must have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the hospitality industry.
- Excellent communication and customer service skills.
- Apply health and safety regulations.
- Package: Wages \$6 - \$8 p/hour plus statutory benefits.
- Suitably qualified Caymanians, Status Holders and Legal Residents to send CV with recent photograph, police clearance and 2 written references to:-

[libertysrestaurant@candw.ky](mailto:libertysrestaurant@candw.ky)

## Assistant Mechanic

needed

with at least 5 years' experience in the repair of motor cars and with basic knowledge of electrical diagnostics.

Contact 345 923-0866 or

926 7203 or email

[sherinetbromfield@gmail.com](mailto:sherinetbromfield@gmail.com)

## HERITAGE HOLDINGS GROUP OF COMPANIES

### Medical/Nursing Support (Primary Caregiver)

#### Job Summary:

On behalf of a family organization, we are seeking a compassionate and skilled individual to provide comprehensive caregiving and light medical support to two elderly individuals, ensuring their physical, emotional, and daily needs are met. While this position is not within our company, we are assisting in the recruitment process to fill this essential role.

#### Key Responsibilities:

##### For Individual 1:

- Assist with basic caregiving tasks such as mobility support, medication management, and ensuring medications are taken on schedule.
- Support daily exercise routines and physiotherapy activities.
- Provide first aid or other medical assistance as needed.
- Offer light caregiving support during the night if required.
- Accompany on outings, ensuring safety and engagement in activities.

##### For Individual 2:

- Assist with light medical tasks, including medication management and first aid.
- Provide caregiving and companionship, fostering engagement in meaningful activities.
- Chauffeur to medical appointments and social engagements.
- Assist with household tasks such as light cleaning, meal planning, and preparation.
- Support travel arrangements and accompany on short trips as needed.

#### Shared Responsibilities:

- Engage both individuals in planned activities, such as family or social gatherings, light exercise, or other events.
- Ensure meals are programmed and prepared to meet dietary needs.
- Act as a companion to foster emotional and mental well-being.

#### Requirements:

- Experience in caregiving or nursing.
- Valid driver's license (for appointments and travel).
- First aid certification or equivalent basic medical training (required).
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to balance the needs of two individuals effectively.

#### Compensation:

- Competitive weekly salary of KYD600.
- Housing allowance of KYD150 per week.
- Phone plan provided.
- Holiday bonus and other benefits as per labor law requirements.

**Note:** This role supports a private household directly associated with the family organization. The recruitment process is being facilitated to identify the right candidate for this essential caregiving position.

If you are a skilled and compassionate caregiver who meets these qualifications, we encourage you to apply!

Apply via: <https://heritageholdings.bamboohr.com/careers/90>

Alternatively, you may email [jobs@heritageholdings.ky](mailto:jobs@heritageholdings.ky)

## HERITAGE HOLDINGS GROUP OF COMPANIES

### Private Household

#### Driver/Administrative Assistant/Handyman

#### Job Summary:

On behalf of the family organization, we are seeking a reliable and versatile individual to provide driving services, light home maintenance, and administrative support. While this position is not within the company, we are assisting in the recruitment process to help meet the needs of the household.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- Provide transportation for appointments, errands, and site visits.
- Accompany and assist during property visits, including engaging with workers and inspecting assets.
- Perform administrative tasks such as managing email correspondence, scheduling appointments, and providing task reminders.
- Offer technical assistance with mobile devices and computers.
- Maintain a daily schedule, coordinating personal and professional commitments.
- Assist during outings, meetings, and social activities to support mental and social engagement.
- Oversee property-related tasks, including coordinating maintenance or inspections as needed.
- Perform light maintenance work to ensure the primary residence is in good condition.

#### Requirements:

- Valid driver's license.
- Experience in property management, construction, or administrative support (preferred but not mandatory).
- Proficiency in using technology, including emails and mobile devices.
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills.

#### Compensation:

- Competitive weekly salary of KYD600.
- Housing allowance of KYD150 per week.
- Phone plan provided.
- Holiday bonus and other benefits as per labor law requirements.

**Note:** This role supports a private household directly associated with the family organization. The recruitment process is being facilitated to identify the right candidate for this essential caregiving position.

If you are a skilled and compassionate caregiver who meets these qualifications, we encourage you to apply!

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