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No. 3201 \* 61st Year \* Tortola, British Virgin Islands - Saturday, 20 May 2023

HON. JULIAN FRASER AIRS HIS OPINION ABOUT THE "GREEDY BILL"...p2 COMPLAINTS TRIBUNAL TO EXAMINE...p3

# DEPUTY PREMIER TO REDUCE BUREAUCRACY WHILE STREAMLINING PROCESSES



Hon Lorna Smith

Deputy Premier and Minister Financial Services, Labour and Trade, Hon Lorna Smith, has strongly denied allegations made by the media suggesting that she has shifted her agenda since the 2023 election campaign, now that she is a

member of the government.

During a press conference on 16 May, 2023, alongside Premier Dr the Hon Natalio Wheatley, where they were providing updates on their recent trip to the United Kingdom (UK), a member of the media questioned Hon

Smith about the apparent disparity between previous statements and her current actions.

"You were pushing an agenda two weeks ago on the way how you see things but you are now faced with a different agenda. How difficult it is for you to adjust to meet this new agenda and not able to satisfy the needs or what you told the people?" asked the media representative.

In response, Hon Smith asserted: "I was not pushing a different agenda. I was pushing an agenda for greater efficiency." She clarified that her focus during the campaign was on reducing bureaucracy and streamlining processes, particularly with regard to the lengthy delays in processing work permits and trade licenses. She emphasized: "And that is what I plan to do, so it's the same agenda.

And I am so happy that I have the opportunity as Deputy Premier to make sure that I can follow through on this promise. So, it is not a different agenda at all. It's to make sure what I promised, I can deliver."

Furthermore, Hon Smith explained that she has recognized the need for improvement in the services provided by the government, and she is committed to addressing these shortcomings. She stated: "I am meeting a situation where there is a need for improvement, and everybody recognizes that there is a need for improvement in the services that we deliver."

The Deputy Premier was also questioned about any regrets or apologies she might have for aligning with the Virgin Islands Party (VIP) to form the government, despite her previous affiliation with the National Democratic Party (NDP).

"So, would it be correct to say, Mrs. Smith, you have no regrets from the decision you made?" asked Mr. Lewis.

To this, Hon Smith promptly replied: "None, none, no apology." She stood firm in her conviction and showed no remorse for her choice to join the government, despite the disagreements and power struggles reported among the Progressive Virgin Islands Movement (PVIM), NDP, and Progressives United (PU), who remained in the Opposition.

#### LABOUR ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED

During the press conference the Deputy Premier also noted that she has heard complaints from local businesses and expatriates about the prolonged

Continued on page 2



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# DEPUTY PREMIER TO REDUCE BUREAUCRACY...from page 1

processing times for work permits. As such the Minister for Financial Services, Labour & Trade made a commitment to drastically reduce the current ninemonth period under her leadership.

"I am keenly aware of this issue, and it is a pervasive concern. I have engaged with the Labour Commissioner to address the matter and ensure a significant reduction in processing time," Hon. Smith assured.

"We need to explore better utilization of technology, and I am in contact with a recommended expert who can assist us in this regard. I want to assure everyone that I am fully dedicated to resolving this issue once and for all."

The Minister also highlighted inadequate staffing as one of the primary reasons behind the ongoing problems in the processing of work permits at the Labour Department.

She acknowledged that the shortage of officers within the department has created difficulties, particularly for businesses in the tourism sector.

"I recently met with someone who pointed out the lack of a senior officer on Virgin Gorda. As a result, businesses, especially those in tourism, have to wait for an officer to travel from Tortola to address their concerns," she explained.

# Road Works At Frenchman's Cay Bridge

The public is notified that works are/will be commencing at the Frenchman's Cay bridge to reduce and reshape the sidewalk. Motorists are asked to use caution when traversing the area.

# Liquor Licence Hearing On June 1

The public is advised that the Magistrate's Court will hold a Liquor Licence hearing on June 1 at 10:00 a.m. at the court's office in John's Hole.

The purpose of the hearing is to determine applications for licences for the sale of liquor.

Relevant businesses can contact the Magistracy at 284-468-4360 for more information.

# HON. JULIAN FRASER AIRS HIS OPINION ABOUT THE "GREEDY BILL"

Senior Legislator, and Third District Representative Hon. Julian Fraser has voiced his opinion that the Retiring Allowances (Legislative Services) Amendment Act, 2021, commonly known as the 'Greedy Bill, should undergo amendments rather than complete repeal, despite calls from some quarters for its removal.

Fraser, who had not previously taken a stance on the issue,

clarified that he was not currently preoccupiedwith concerns about how a repeal of the bill would personally affect him.

"That would probably become a legal matter... That's a legal matter that is not at the forefront of my mind. I'm not a lawyer. I'm not involved in legal matters... I make laws. I don't litigate," Mr. Fraser stated during a recent interview with JTV News.

Hon. Fraser pointed out that Sixth District



Hon. Julian Fraser
Representative Hon.
Myron Walwyn, who recently returned to the House of Assembly (HOA) after a four-year hiatus, has already benefited from the retirement program in

place for HOA members. When questioned about the impact of Hon. Walwyn's return on his pension, Fraser explained that there are mechanisms already in place to address such situations.

"I believe his pension will be suspended. He will no longer receive pension payments. Instead, he will begin receiving a salary," Hon. Fraser explained. "It's important to remember that he would have received a lump sum based on the pension... when he retires again, whenever that may be, then they'll continue from where he left off."

Hon. Fraser further clarified that repealing a

law means eradicating it entirely. He suggested that this may not align with the desires of the public regarding the specific legislation under scrutiny. "In my opinion, it simply needs to be amended — remove the parts that are problematic and retain the rest of the legislation,"

Hon. Fraser expressed.

However, -he acknowledged that if the public strongly favors repealing the Act, then it should indeed be repealed. Nonetheless, Hon. Fraser emphasized that the relevant sections of the legislation should be integrated into any new law that is drafted.



# COMPLAINTS TRIBUNAL TO EXAMINE BANKS CUSTOMERS GRIEVANCES

The reports and complaints of subpar customer service from certain banks across the Territory has reached the ears of the Financial Services Complaints Tribunal, and as a result residents are being reminded of their recourse to file complaints on the matter. The Financial Services Complaints Tribunal serves as the avenue for addressing grievances against regulated financial services entities in the British Virgin Islands.

During a recent episode of the Talking Points radio show on 15 May, the hosts expressed frustration over frequently encountering empty ATMs and enduring long wait times at local banks.

Jack Husbands, Chairman of the Financial Services Complaints-Tribunal, highlighted that residents have the option to bring their concerns to the Tribunal, which then facilitates a dialogue with the banks to address the reported issues. "When a complaint is filed, it undergoes a mediation process. We bring the parties together and strive to find a mutually agreeable solution. At the conclusion of this process, we can make recommendations to the institution (the bank)," Husbands explained. "In the event of significant challenges, we can submit a report to the Financial Services Commission, which will address the matter. It may be addressed during the financial services institution's annual review or as a specific case by the Commission."

Husbands noted that the Complaints Tribunal provides quarterly reports to the Financial Services Commission based on the public' complaints. However, he clarified that his office does not possess the authority to dictate the sanctions imposed on banks or other financial institutions that residents perceive as operating below acceptable standards.

"The Tribunal submits the-report,-makes recommendations,-and leaves it to the Commission to take appropriate action. We are not directly involved in that decision-making process. Our role is to listen to the parties involved and mediate," Husbands clarified.

He further added that the Complaints Tribunal accepts a wide range of reports, including those related to individuals who feel they have received untimely responses from banks when applying for mortgages and other types of loans.

Originally established as the Insurance Tribunal in the aftermath of the 2017 hurricanes, when residents felt unfairly treated by insurance companies, the Financial Services Complaints Tribunal has expanded its mandate to encompass complaints concerning other local financial institutions. However, many residents remain unaware of the office's functions, while others perceive it as lacking the authority to bring about substantial changes.

# GOVERNOR UNDERLINES "MORE CONCRETE DELIVERY" OF REFORMS



His Excellency John James Rankin CMG

His Excellency Governor John Rankin, CMG, has expressed his desire to see "more concrete delivery" on the important reforms recommended for the Territory by the Commission of Inquiry (COI), while acknowledging his cooperative relationship with Premier Dr. the Hon. Natalio Wheatley and his VIP government.

During a 1 May interview with the Talking Points radio show, Governor Rankin stated: "The Premier - in terms of what he has said - remains publicly committed to the reform process, as am I. What I would continue to do is work on moving beyond those public commitments into further, more concrete delivery."

He cited specific examples, such as the Whistleblower

Act, which was passed during Premier Fahie's administration but is not yet in force. Governor Rankin expressed his hope that the necessary administrative resource arrangements can be promptly implemented to bring that legislation into operation.

Another area of focus for the King's Representative in the Territory is the Registers of Interests. He expressed his desire for the House of Assembly to make these registers truly public, emphasizing that the current arrangement does not promote the transparency intended by the COI. The Register of Interests serves as a record of the financial interests of parliamentarians and aims to provide a mechanism for publicly declaring any private interests that may conflict or be perceived to conflict with their public duties.

Governor Rankin has been collaborating with elected representatives to implement various good governance changes recommended by the COI for the BVI. The government has thus far completed 20 out of the 48 recommended reforms.

However, in the Governor's last quarterly review, it was noted that the government had missed multiple reform deadlines.

The Governor has consistently cautioned representatives elected about importance the of implementing recommendations in timely manner to prevent the UK from invoking the Order in Council, which could potentially curtail local autonomy and decisionmaking powers.

MORE READERS: THE ISLAND SUN

### Chairman's Remarks at the Launch of the BVI Yachting, Hotel & Tourism Association



May 15, 2023 ChamberPress ReleaseNewsletter Government-officials, distinguished guests, ladies and-gentlemen,-good afternoon.

The privilege is mine today to witness the launch of the BVI Yachting, Hotel and Tourism Association from an idea to reality. People often hear me remark that businesses are the backbone of the economy because they provide the goods, services, jobs, tax revenue and corporate social responsibility that supports our daily lives. I would like to remind us that the business community is the most important stakeholder in the socioeconomic development of

a country and the fact is, that without businesses the standard of life we know today would not exist. We especially came to appreciate this over the past six years through the trauma and economic upheaval of the 2017 hurricanes and the 2020 pandemic. Our business leaders are the unsung heroes that drove the economic recovery and helped us get back on our feet as quickly as we did. Please give them a round of applause for their enduring and courageous spirits!

Entreprenuership is in our DNA as Virgin Islanders and over fifty years ago, the BVICCHA was established through a merger of the BVI Chamber of Commerce and the BVI Hotel Association. Last year when I made the proposal of a HTA to the Board, I was convinced that we had an opportunity to ensure our business stakeholders were more effectively represented across industries.

I observed across the Caribbean region that the chambers of commerce and hotel associations were separate organizations that collaborated for the greater socioeconomic development of their countries. I proposed that it was time to split the Siamese twins and I am grateful they were open and supported the idea to the end.

I would like to pause here and thank wholeheartedly the working group that caught the vision and ran with it: Mr. Clyde Lettsome, Mrs. Sharon Flax-Brutus, Mr. Russell Harrigan, Mrs. Sally Reid, Mr. Andreas Pade and anyone else who may have been involved behind the scenes. Please give them a round of applause. When I first approached Clyde about the idea, he was almost immediately onboard and assembled his colleagues to explore the viability of the initiative and I was thrilled when it was received with open arms across the hospitality sector, including the yachting industry.

We at the BVICCHA look forward to partnering with our "twin" as we do with other industry organizations, to address mutual concerns like workforce development and exploring regional trade. This new alliance will create a louder voice of business for our economy that currently boasts a gross domestic product of over \$1.5 billion dollars.

In the coming weeks, the

chamber of commerce will be rebranded as we continue our mission to advocate for policy and legislation that provide a business-friendly environment, facilitate business training and education, and coordinate networking opportunities like the Buy BVI Trade Expo to educate and equip business owners in an ever-changing global economy.

On behalf of the BVICCHA Board and members, I offer congratulations to my colleague, Mrs. Sharon Flax-Brutus as the interim President on this first step in the journey of a 1,000 miles. It is demanding work, but it pays dividends when businesses get the help they need to succeed and thrive in a highly competitive landscape. I eagerly await the elevation of tourism businesses that will further enhance the Virgin Islands' status as a hospitality industry leader, regionally and internationally. Let us toast to their future success! Cheers!

Shaina M. Smith-Archer Chairman of the Board, BVICCHA







# BVI's Original, Professional & Affordable 1-stop Medical Center







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## **Telecom Commission To Create A Positive Digital Environment**

Chief Executive Officer at Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC) Mr. Guy Lester Malone has reiterated the commission's commitment to creating a positive digital environment that has zero tolerance for any form of harassment or abuse.

Mr. Malone said it is important for everyone to stand against cyberbullying and help promote a culture of kindness, empathy and inclusivity online as the

Territory prepares to observe World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. The day's activities will be observed under the theme, "Don't Be Mean Behind the Screen".

"At the Telecommunications

Regulatory Commission, we take cyberbullying seriously and believe that everyone, inclusive of our youths, employees, customers and stakeholders, has the right to a safe and respectful online experience," Mr. Malone said.

As part of the activities in observance of the day, the TRC organised a one-day symposium for approximately 300 students across the Territory on Friday, May 19, at the Eileene Parsons Auditorium on the Hamilton Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC) Campus at Paraquita Bay, Tortola from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Keynote Speaker for the symposium was Associate Director of the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention at the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York Dr. Stephanie Fredrick. Dr. Fedrick is as an Assistant Professor of the School of Psychology, where her research investigates the role of families, peers, and schools in preventing and intervening with bullying, with a focus on cyberbullying and youth media use. Dr. Fredrick is a licenced psychologist and a nationally certified school psychologist.

Organiser of this year's symposium, Ms. Johanna Rhymer mentioned that telecommunications particular the internet, provide

to solving problems enhancing our lives.

She said while there are instances where telecommunications create solutions, there are also some challenges that are more and more increasingly evident especially amongst children.

Ms. Rhymer added, "Although cyber bullying is bullying with the use of digital technologies, Cyber bullying and face-to-face bullying or physical altercations can often happen alongside each other and as such, we thought it best to tackle this ongoing local and international dilemma by bringing our keynote speaker Dr. Stephanie Fredrick to the VI."

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) has been observed each year since May 17, 1969, to mark and celebrate the founding of the International Telecommunications Union and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.

The TRC remains committed to providing a safe, secure and accessible digital environment for all citizens; and believes that by working together, the power of telecommunications and information technologies can be harnessed to create a safer and more inclusive digital world.



#### PROGRAM LISTINGS

#### MONDAYS

- (1:00 PM) OMOJA WITH EDJU EN KA
- (5:00 PM) TALKING POINTS WITH MRS, VIOLET GAUL
- (7:00 PM) INSPIRATION MONDAYS WITH MEADE MALONE
- (7:30 PM) TRANSFORMING YOUR TOMORROW TODAY BY TRANSFORMATION CHURCH INTERNATIONAL
- (8:00 PM) NDP RADIO PROGRAM (1ST & 3RD MONDAYS) BY THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- (8:00 9:00 PM) NEW COVENANT PRAYER LINE (EVERY 2ND MONDAY) NEW COVENANT MINISTRIES

#### TUESDAYS

(5:00 PM) HONESTLY SPEAKING PROGRAM - WITH CLAUDE SKELTON CLINE

#### WEDNESDAYS

- (10:00 AM) THE MORNING SHOW WITH PAUL HEWLETT
- (1:15 PM) OMOJA WITH "EDJU EN KA"
- (7:00 8:00 PM) DYAS VOICE PROGRAM (2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAY) WITH DEPT. OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
- (7:00 9:00 PM) THE HOT SEAT REVISED PROG. (1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY)
- (8:00 10:00 PM) THE HOT SEAT REVISED PROG. (2ND WEDNESDAY) WITH CARL DAWSON, JULIAN GORDON, AND WALWYN BREWLEY

#### THURSDAYS

•(5:00 PM) HONESTLY SPEAKING PROGRAM - WITH CLAUDE SKELTON CLINE

#### FRIDAYS

•(7:00 - 8:00 PM) BODY AND SOUL PROGRAM - WITH REV. DR. PASTOR MELVIN TURNBULL, DR. KEDRICK PICKERING, REV. MICHAEL ANTHONY, PASTOR CALVIN MILLS, AND REV. DR. KEITH LEWIS

SATURDAYS

• (8:00 - 10:00 AM) MORE TALK, LESS MUSIC - WITH ZOE AND JOE JACK

•(10:00 - 11:00 AM) KNOWLEDGE IS POWER HOUR

(4:30 - 6:00 PM) SPORTS TALK - WITH CLEMENT "BONE CRUSHER" DONOVAN, AND ROY PICKERING

(6:00 - 7:30 PM) A LOOK AT THE COMMUNITY - WITH HOSTS ULRIC SCATLIFFE & DR. HARLAN VANTERPOOL SUNDAYS

(7:15 - 7:30 AM) HOPE FOR TODAY B'CAST - BY: CHRISTIAN FAITH ASSEMBLY

(7:30 - 7:45 AM) VOICE OF THE LAMB B'CAST - BY: TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH

(7:45 - 8:00 AM) ADVENT EYE MINISTRY (2ND & 4TH SUNDAY) - BY: BRO. MICHAEL WILLIAMS

(7:45 - 8:00 AM) FAITH BELIEVING B'CAST (1ST & 3RD SUNDAY) - BY: UPPER ROOM DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE, BOSTON, MA

(8:00 - 8:15 AM) VOICE OF HOPE B'CAST - BY: APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

(8:30 - 9:00 AM) GOSPEL OF JESUS B'CAST - BY: GOSPEL OF JESUS EVANGELISTIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

(9:00 - 9:30 AM) SHOCKING BIBLE PROPHECIES - BY: SEVENTHDAY ADVENTISTS CHURCHES

(9:30 - 9:45 AM) AGAPE TOTAL LIFE BROADCAST - BY: AGAPE TOTAL LIFE CENTER

(9:50 AM) HOLINESS AWAKENING B'CAST - BY: CHURCH OF GOD OF HOLINESS, BAUGHERS BAY

(10:05 AM) REVEALED TRUTH B'CAST - BY: SHAMMAH DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

(10:35 AM) UNSHACKLED RADIO MINISTRY

(12:30 PM) ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, SEA COWS BAY SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

•(1:30 PM) ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN CHURCH (EXCEPT 2ND SUNDAY)

(4:30 PM) HYMNS & THEIR MEANINGS PROG. (1ST & 3RD SUNDAY) - WITH BRENDA HERBERT STEWART

(6:00 PM) METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY SERVICE (1ST SUNDAY)

(6:00 PM) ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN CHURCH (2ND SUNDAY)

(7:00 PM) YOUR GOSPEL MUSIC PROGRAM - WITH VALERIE LETTSOME AND CLAUDE PARILLON (LAST 3

(7:30 PM) "VICTORIOUS PRAISES' B'CAST - WITH SIS. ESMIE POTTER (2ND SUNDAY)

(8:15 PM) PRAISE & PRAYER SERVICE - BY: TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH (4TH SUNDAY)



### Department Of Waste Management Debuts Three Stage Strategy



. A three-stage strategy has been announced by the Department of Waste Management to tackle waste in the Virgin Islands.

Acting Manager Mr. Neville Allen said at a recent District One community meeting that the department will seek to implement the action plan which has a short-term, midterm and a long-term plans for tackling the Territory's waste disposal problems.

Mr. Allen said for the short-term solution, the department will seek to bury all incoming waste at the incinerator daily, covering the waste with a minimum of six inches of compacted soil to help minimise the risk of spontaneous fires.

"We will increase site security by installing security cameras at the entrance of the facility to help prevent unauthorised access to the dump site. This will help eliminate the problem of fires being caused by unauthorised

persons who gain access to the site to obtain copper and other precious metals," the Acting Manager explained.

In addition, Mr. Allen said the department will employ security personnel to monitor the site between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. daily. He further added that an increase in waste separating and recycling efforts through education and installation of recyclable drop-off areas, is high on the short-term agenda, to reduce waste going to the dumpsite.

In relation to the mediumterm plans, Mr. Allen disclosed that full repairs conducted be existing incinerator including procuring and installing a new control panel which was destroyed in a fire in February 2022, an ash conveyor, rams and exhaust fans which are all required to make the system functional. These items, according to Mr. Allen, have been ordered and are expected to be shipped in the coming months.

"We will hire a contracting company to complete the repairs to the roof of the building and make the necessary electrical connections for the new control panel. Works are expected to be completed within the next 8-12 months" Mr. Allen added.

The final stage of the plan is to implement a ban on singleuse plastic containers and incorporate a refund system on glass and aluminium containers. Mr. Allen explained that the initiative is to extract recyclable materials from the waste stream and litter throughout the Virgin Islands. Drafting instructions are currently being prepared and are expected to be completed by the end of July.

The community meeting was joined by Minister

for Health and Social Development Honourable Vincent O. Wheatley, Assistant Manager Mr. Anselm Myers and members of Green VI.

The Ministry of Health and Social Development through the Department of Waste Management is committed to transforming and implementing innovative ideas and strategies to manage waste in the Virgin Islands.

### PETER ISLAND RESORT & SPA

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	The position is key in working as part of a team to maintain all preventative
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[01]

# VIRGIN ISLANDS SEARCH AND RESCUE ALONG WITH CAREY OLSEN, LEVERICK BAY MARINA, BITTER END YACHT CLUB, DIVE BVI AND SUNCHASER SCUBA PARTNER FOR SWIM AND SUP THE SOUND 2023.

Virgin Islands Search and Rescue's annual fundraiser, Swim and SUP the Sound sponsored by Carey Olsen will take place on Sunday, June 2, 2023.

VISAR will be hosting the annual fundraiser, Swim and SUP the Sound which starts at The Bitter End Yacht Club ending at Leverick Bay and includes a half-mile, one-mile and two-mile swim and a 2.5-mile SUP course. This will mark the first time since Hurricane Irma that the 2-mile and SUP race will be able to start from the beach at the Bitter End Yacht Club.

This fundraiser has been going on for over 12 years and is one of the non-profits core events of the season. In 2020, due to COVID-19 the race was held virtually with over 145 people participating from six different countries and in 2021 was able to be held in person and was sold out.

The majority of VISAR's \$250,000 yearly operating budget is funded through the \$2 per person program which is collected by the local charter companies. This year, VISAR is also fundraising to replace their

search and rescue vessel SPIRIT OF TORTOLA. VISAR is relying heavily on the funds raised at Swim and SUP the Sound to help towards these endeavors.

"Swim and SUP the Sound is a fantastic day on the water for everyone involved from the race participants, to the volunteers and those enjoying Family Fun However, it's also Day. an important day; as the funds raised will help our dedicated crew members in our mission of 'Saving Lives at Sea.' We'd like to thank everyone who helps

to make Swim and SUP the Sound a success." Gerard Kraakman, President & Incident Command Officer.

Swim and SUP the Sound also includes a great FAMILY FUN DAY at no extra cost. Activities include; beach and pool games, arts and crafts and slime making. For those that prefer to spend the day on land they can join the 'Cheer Squad' for a fee which includes ferry transportation and lunch.

Included in the \$100 race entry fee; day of transportation to/from

Road Town to Leverick Bay, Leverick's Famous BBQ lunch, a goodie bag and finishers medal. Full details and event registration are available on VISAR's website at https://visar.org/news/2023-swim-and-sup-the-sound.

Swim and SUP the Sound is sponsored by Carey Olsen with support from Leverick Bay Marina, Sunchaser Scuba, Dive BVI, Oil Nut Bay, Blue Rush Watersports, Necker Island, TerraForma, Virgin Textiles and Romasco.

# Tax Identification Number (TIN) Update

The International Tax Authority (ITA) wishes to remind all Financial Institutions (FI's) that mandatory TIN information in filings was implemented for 2020 reporting year and onwards. And provide all FIs with an update regarding the IRS acceptable sequential codes that should be used for reporting for the calendar years 2022 (due by 31st May 2023) onwards.

Please note that reporting for the calendar year 2022 is considered to be a transition year and as such, for this year only FIs are being allowed to utilize both the TIN codes issued May 2021 or the updated codes provided at Q6.

MORE READERS
The Island Sun

of the Reporting section on the FAQs page on the IRS website. Some of the new and amended codes are listed below:

000222111 Preexisting depository individual account only U.S. indicia being a U.S. place of birth. Additionally, **FFI** must determine that the account holder is a resident of the jurisdiction where the account is maintained for AML and tax purposes. For reference, "depository account" meaning defined in applicable Model 1 Intergovernmental Agreement (Model 1 IGA). This code takes precedence if any other code could also be applicable. 66666666 Preexisting entity account held by a passive NFFE with one or more controlling persons with respect to which self-certifications have not been obtained, and no U.S. indicia have been identified in relation to any controlling persons.

77777777 Dormant Accounts - For pre-existing accounts where there is no TIN available and the account has been dormant or inactive, but remains above the reporting threshold, also known as a "dormant account." A "dormant account" is one that meets the definition set out in U.S. Treasury Regulations §1.1471-4(d)(6)(ii) and had had no financial activity for three years, except for the posting of interest. If an account could be classified into multiple TIN codes, the other code takes precedence.

999999999 Any account for which the FFI cannot obtain a TIN and none of the other TIN codes would be applicable. The use of this code indicates that an FFI has completed its review of accounts without U.S. TINs and has in good faith applied TIN codes to records when applicable.

These codes give an indication to the IRS as to why a TIN was not reported in the filing. However, The IRS system will still generate an error notification to indicate the entry is invalid when one of the codes is used. Where an error has been received by a FI, please note, corrections must be made within 120 days. Where an error was not corrected within 120 days, the IRS will not automatically find

significant non-compliance, but rather, if the IRS contacts a FI, a FI should have in its possession documented attempts made to obtain any missing TIN from its filing(s).

For more information on the filing format and the full discussion of the significant non-compliance process please see Q3. and Q6. of the Reporting section on the FAQs page and below which could be found on the IRS website at:

https://www.irs.gov/ businesses/corporations/ frequently-asked-questionsfaqs-fatca-compliance-legal#

For further information, questions or concerns please feel free to contact us via the following means: telephone number: 1 284 394 4415, email address: Info@bviita.vg

# Ministry Of Health Seeks To Improve Primary Healthcare



The Ministry of Health and Social Development is conducting an assessment of the Primary Health Care System to strengthen and improve the delivery of health care in the Territory.

The ministry is partnering with the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and will be holding several meetings with a wide range of stakeholders from the public and private healthcare sectors and voluntary and community groups involved in and impacted by primary healthcare.

Work commenced virtually in December 2022 and the final report is expected by the end of July this year.

Minister Wheatley welcomed UKHSA Public Health Consultants Dr. Gabrielle Woolf and Dr. Eleanor Turner-Moss on Monday, May 15 to discuss the ongoing project and highlighted the need for special consideration to be given to Sister Islands and

their specific challenges and to ensure that Primary Health Care services meet the needs of people across the entire Territory.

Minister Wheatley and Acting Permanent Secretary Ms. Tasha Bertie reiterated the Government's commitment to making improvements to the health system to better meet the needs of the population.

Meanwhile, Acting Chief Medical Officer Dr. Ronald Georges highlighted the importance of the current assessment to chart the way forward for the revitalisation of Primary Health Care services.

"In particular, more innovative approaches are required for the delivery of services across both public and private sectors," Dr. Georges said, adding, "More effective financing and organisation of that care are required with a focus on better health outcomes and the project aims to identify the key themes

and required strategies for a comprehensive plan to address these challenges".

The Ministry of Health and Social Development remains committed to improving the health and well-being of the residents and visitors of the Virgin Islands.

# Exness (VG) Ltd

- Operations Manager (BVI)
- Full Time
- Tortola

#### Exness (VG) Limited is seeking to employ an Operations Manager (BVI)

The ideal candidate will be responsible for the performance of the British Virgin Islands company.

- Maintaining Exness Group strategic objectives with policies and procedure in accordance with the BVI legal requirement.
- Liaise with group functions and companies to achieve strategic objectives.
- Monitor the relevant financial markets and electronic trading platform, while looking after the interest of its principals, safeguarding the reputation of the Exness Group
- · Set-up and maintain the day-to-day operations of the BVI company.
- Monitoring and evaluating the performance of the company's employees.
- Reports to the group companies and Board of Directors documenting meeting minutes and company decisions
- Oversee control systems to enforce anti-money laundering and compliance policies.
- Filing required reports, local and global taxes by monitoring and documentation of business
- Monitor financial markets conditions, news and generate various trading reports
- · Ability to travel extensively overseas.

#### **Qualification & Experiences**

- · University degree in Finance, MBA or related field
- Minimum of 3 year working experience in the CFD/FX industry and similar projects
- Speak three (3) languages, fluent in English, both verbal and written
- IT skills/knowledge; iress xplan, atwork, commspace, powerBI, wealth explorer, praxis casher, salesforce
- · Certification; corporate finance fundamentals, risk management, Exness's onboarding courses
- · Minimum of 6 years work experience in a globally orientated company

Applications should be sent to jmcsheene@mwmglobalhld.com no later than May 31st, 2023.

BVI Islanders or Belongers preferred.

MORE READERS: THE ISLAND SUN

### Statement by Premier and Minister of Finance Dr. Honourable Natalio Wheatley

Good afternoon to the wonderful people of the Virgin Islands, and the press core.

It is my pleasure to hold this press conference today to provide the public with an update on my recent visit to the United Kingdom (UK). I am very pleased to be joined my Deputy Premier and Minister for Financial Services, Labour and Trade Hon. Lorna Smith. I will make an initial statement and then Hon. Smith will provide an update on financial services and other matters.

Ladies and gentleman, nearly two weeks ago I travelled to the UK where I attended the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands. The King's representative here in the Territory, His Excellency Governor John J. Rankin CMG, also attended as is our duty in our respective capacities. His Majesty is aware of the well wishes of the people of the Virgin Islands as he continues his royal duties as Head of State.

Following the coronation, I attended the Joint Ministerial Council (JMC) between UK Ministers and Overseas Territories (OT) Leaders hosted by OT Minister the Rt. Hon. Lord Goldsmith. The discussions were very constructive and aimed at strengthening UK Government support for the Territories in areas such as security, climate change response, environmental protection, maritime management, economic resilience and health. We also discussed the importance of making the modern partnership between the UK and OTs work better for all concerned.

I can say with conviction that Lord Goldsmith is genuinely committed to the OTs and is doing his level best to get them additional support. The Foreign Secretary Rt. Hon. James Cleverly also joined us at the JMC and he reiterated his deep commitment to the OTs and his own backing for more UK Government assistance to support the Territories in their growth and development.

Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Rishi Sunak's approval of Ministerial leads in each UK Government ministry to handle OT matters is very welcome and very positive. This will promote UK Government commitment to the OTs beyond the Foreign, Commonwealth Development and Office (FCDO), which is an important shift in approach and a critical step in renewing the modern partnership.

In terms of BVI-UK relations, I am pleased that our UK partners support our plans to transition the Virgin Islands to a more diversified, tourism led, investment driven low carbon economy that delivers business and job opportunities for our people. In the very near future my administration will engage the relevant UK Government departments on technical assistance to help advance this transition, as well as tap the UK's existing support schemes to unlock investment into the Territory's economy.

I am also very pleased that at the JMC there was UK support for my Administration's push for infrastructure development through targeted borrowing. The UK side understands our economic needs and climate vulnerability which has to be addressed through public sector investment in resilience. In due course the Ministry of Finance will have technical discussions on loans with UK counterparts once the Ministry has prepared a borrowing package to fund our planned Public Infrastructure Improvement Programme.

Notably, I had a bilateral meeting with the Lord



Hon, Natalio D. Wheatley

Goldsmith, which was also attended by the Deputy Premier. We discussed governance reform, among other things. We agreed that now is the time to reenergise the reform process and to swiftly move forward implementation of the remaining elements of the COI recommendations and other reforms.

Governor Rankin and I will be discussing any additional areas where an extension or timeline revision may is required. These will be agreed in short order.

In terms of the review reviews that were laid before the House of Assembly last month, my Government colleagues and I will soon consider the recommendations of those reviews and the appropriate next steps to be taken in terms of legislative action and other measures. I want to reassure the public that you will have an opportunity to give input, which is essential for democracy and good governance.

Lastly, while in London I was able to engage UK Parliamentarians. I met the Chair of the BVI All Party Parliamentary Group Mr. James Sunderland MP with whom I discussed my Administration's priorities, reform, and progress on building a new modern partnership between the Virgin Islands and UK.

mI was also a panelist at an

Overseas Territories Conference in the UK Parliament where I shared with parliamentarians what it is like to govern in the Territories and the key issues of interest and concern to us. The conference preceded the backbench debate on the Overseas Territories that I know many persons here in the Territory watched last week online. As you can see, engagement with UK Parliamentarians is critical to ensure they properly understand our challenges and are clear on our perspective as partners in this relationship.

At the UK Parliament I also had the distinct pleasure of being present for the unveiling of a new stained glass window at the Speaker's House that depicts the British Virgin Islands heraldic shield and those of the 15 other OTs and Crown Dependencies that are linked to the UK. The stained glass window will remind visitors at Speaker's House of the UK's relationship with these places. It was commissioned by the Speaker of the House of Commons Sir Lindsay Hoyle, I pay tribute to him as a champion of the Overseas Territories.

Ladies and gentleman, there is one other aspect of my visit to the UK pertaining to financial services, but the Deputy Premier in her capacity as Financial Services Minister will mention this in her statement.

My visit to the UK was an overall success and critical to my Administration's policy of stability and engagement with the UK. I would like to thank my delegation for their support, who included:

Deputy Premier Hon. Lorna Smith, Financial Secretary Mr. Jeremiah Frett, Permanent Secretary Mrs. Carolyn Stoutt-Igwe, Special Envoy of the Premier Mr. Benito Wheatley, BVI London Office Director Ms. Tracy Bradshaw, Deputy Director of the International Affairs Secretariat Ms. Dwynel Davis, Managing Director of the BVI Financial Services Commission Mr. Kenneth Baker and Director of Policy and Research at BVI Financial Services Commission, Cherno Jallow. I would also like to thank the staff of the BVI London Office for all their support.

Before I conclude, I want to briefly update on ministerial reorganisation. After careful consideration and internal consultations, my Administration has made an adjustment to the initial Ministerial portfolios announced after the General Election. I am pleased to report that we have established the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change as a ministry in its own right, that stands separately from the Premier's Office. I will serve as Minister over this portfolio.

This demonstrates the importance we assign to the environment and all the critical issues involved in its preservation and sustainable use, as well as the existential threat of climate change. I am looking forward to the Ministry's establishment of a Department of Environment and Climate Change to respond to these needs.

With that I will conclude my statement and turn over to the Deputy Premier.

I thank you.



20. Outpatient Services 21. Hospitalization

28. Accidental Death and Dismemberment

30. Preventive Care for Newborns inclusive of

34. Birth abnormalities, congenital conditions,

premature birth, or other defects in newborn

22. Accidents & Emergency Care

Rehabilitation

25. Organ Transplant

29. Annual Physical

Immunizations

32. Rehabilitation

36. Physical Therapy

37. Prosthetic Devices

31. Surgical Expense Benefits

33. Doctors and Specialist Visits

26. Private Duty Nurse

27. Chiropractic Benefits

24. Critical Illness

23. Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

### **Education World Forum Addresses Changes** in Education

Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Honourable Sharie B. de Castro said the Education World Forum addressed the changes in education and what the world has learned from the recent disruptions.

Honourable de Castro while speaking on the outcome of the Education World Forum (EWF) held in the United Kingdom from May 7 to 10, added that the forum also addressed the world's responses to these changes; and the long term challenges which lie ahead.

The minister said the ultimate goal of education is to create independent thinkers and that the student's voice should play a critical role in the development of any type of curriculum.

"In the past, teachers were seen as the engineers behind the educational space, they are in fact the facilitators to this goal," she said.

"Teachers should be facilitating learning and creating an opportunity for innovation and creativity to be exuded through the instruction in the classroom," Honourable de Castro said.

Meanwhile, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Dr. Marcia Potter said that the Education World Forum examined policies for development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values.

Dr. Potter said, "Sharing with other educators, policy makers and stakeholders of education created a platform to reflect on the importance of leadership, and the growing potential of technology's support for education's core aims of Science; Technology; Engineering; Arts; and Mathematics."

The Permanent Secretary said the forum's programme considers education's sustainability as well as its potential to contribute to global sustainability and economic development.

Deputy Chief Education Officer, Mrs. Orlandette Crabbe said that the forum confirmed that Virgin Islands education is moving along in the right direction, in reimaging education in the Territory. Mrs Crabbe said, "It was rewarding to see and hear much of what we have been fleshing out for the past year taking place in education systems throughout the world. We endeavor to use much of what we have learnt, as we continue to move education in the Territory, full steam ahead."

The Education World Forum 2023 was held in London under the theme, 'New Beginnings: Nurturing Learning Culture, Building Resilience, Promoting Sustainability. Stronger, Bolder, Better Education by Design.'

The forum is the largest gathering of education and skills ministers in the world, and provides a platform for education leaders to discuss and share ideas on how to improve education systems globally. The 2023 event saw over 115 registered countries and territories in attendance.

The Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, remains committed to providing high quality education and rehabilitative services, as well as, to facilitate access to, and participation in sports and recreation, in an effort to enrich the lives of all residents of the Virgin Islands.





#### TENDERS FOR A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

The B.V.I. Electricity Corporation is inviting tenders for the renewal from any Virgin Islands Licensed Insurance companies for a Group Health Insurance Plan to provide comprehensive supplementary coverage for all employees, retirees and their dependants that are members covered under the existing plans at August 31, 2023.

#### Terms of Reference

#### The plan should provide (but not limited to) the following benefits:

- 1. Coverage of Pre-existing Conditions
- 2. Major Medical Insurance
- 3. Worldwide 24 hours a day coverage
- 4. Customer Service Call Center- 24 hours access
- 5. Local Office/Agent
- 6. Maximum Lifetime Benefits
- 7. Maximum Out of Pocket
- 8. Substantial Term Life Insurance for Insured and
- 9. Preferred Provider Network (Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands & USA) (Network Information must be accessible via internet and regularly updated)
- 10. Hospital Room and Board
- 11. Maternity
- 12. Psychiatric Care
- 13. HIV/AIDS related illnesses and lifetime benefits
- 14. Vision Care
- 15. Prescription Drugs
- 16. Air Ambulance and Mortal Remains Coverage
- 18. Lab/X-ray Scan and other Diagnostic
- 19. Dental Care
- 35. Radiation and Chemotherapy etc.
- 17. Second Opinion
- Procedures

#### **Optional Benefits**

- 38. Disability Insurance
- 39. Cosmetic Surgery (in the event of an accident)
- 40. Experimental Treatment
- 41. Extended Care Benefits
- 42. Home Health Care

#### Instruction to the Tenderers

#### Tenderers are required to furnish the following:

- a) A valid Insurance License issued pursuant to the Insurance Act 1994 OR
- b) Copy of Insurance License Application submitted to Commissioner of
- c) Good Standing certificates in respect of National Health Insurance, Social Security and Taxes including Payroll taxes and Property Taxes.
- d) Certificate of Good Standing from Commercial Registry.
- e) Trade License.
- f) Independently audited financial statements for the last two financial years
- g) Names of local Insurance Agent and curriculum vitae outlining the professional skills and qualifications of the Manager, including details of experience in the field together with valid Certificate of Authority issued pursuant to the Insurance Act 1994.
- h) Premium for employee, employee and dependents (spouse), employee and dependent (child/ren) must be submitted for the required services separately. In addition, the premium for same for the required and optional services combined.

The tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with "Tender for Group Health Insurance Plan 2023" and the tenderers return address.

> These tenders must be addressed to:-The General Manager **B.V.I. Electricity Corporation** P.O. Box 268 Road Town, Tortola VG 1110 **British Virgin Islands**

CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023 BY 3:00 P.M.

# GLOBAL NEWS BRIEF STORIES SELECTED BY GIORGIO MIGLIAVACCA

COLOMBIA - In the 18th century, a man - likely from Spain — brought a mysterious disease to the region of presentday Antioquia in Colombia. This individual had a unique genetic mutation — not present in previous generations — which condemned him to an unenviable fate: sudden memory loss at around 44 years of age and early Alzheimer's at around 49. Today, about 6,000 descendants of that man live in Antioquia, and 1,200 of them carry that mutation, known as E280A or Paisa. Early dementia is so common that in some villages it has popular names, such as "la bobera" after the Spanish word for fool.

On Monday, a team of scientists presented an exceptional case of a man who carried the mutation, but did not suffer cognitive impairment until the age of 67. He is called patient J. He began suffering from Alzheimer's when he was 72 years old, more than two decades later than expected. Researchers believe that his case opens the door to new ways to search for an effective treatment against the disease. The researchers believe this resistance to early dementia was due to another protective mutation, which they have named COLBOS, an acronym for Colombia and Boston, where most of the authors are from. [El Pais]

ROME, - The global turnover of counterfeit Made in Italy food products has risen to 120 billion euros, farmers' association Coldiretti said on Tuesday.

The increase is partly driven by what Coldiretti described as "the strange alliance" between Russia and the United States which, "divided by the war in Ukraine, rank respectively as the country where the production of fake 'Italian' products has grown the most in the past year and the one where they record the highest turnover".

The contribution of protected designation of origin Made in Italy food products to national exports and growth could be significantly higher if international food counterfeiting is stopped, said Coldiretti President Ettore Prandini at Tuttofood, an agribusiness event in Milan. [ANSA]

CALABRIA, Italy -The Guardia di Finanza police force said on Tuesday they found the "extremely pure cocaine" worth more than £800 million (\$880 million) in refrigerated containers that had been shipped from Ecuador.

The containers were bound for Armenia and were due to go by the Georgian city of Batum.

The drugs were discovered in the containers thanks to specialized scanners and with the help of a sniffer dog named Joel,



police said.

Gioia Tauro is in the southern Calabria region, the home to the 'Ndrangheta, which is one of the largest and most powerful crime syndicates in Europe.

It has eclipsed the Sicilian mafia by transporting tens of billions of euros worth of cocaine from South America to Europe over the past decades.

It was unclear whether the group was linked to the latest discovery. lo/wd (Reuters, dpa)

RUSSIA - Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) has recruited former Islamic State fighters to infiltrate Ukraine, Turkey and the United States, the independent Meduza news website reported Tuesday, citing four recruited fighters.

The outlet said an unnamed source close to the FSB confirmed regular but largely unsuccessful attempts to penetrate Ukraine's military circles.

Meduza interviewed a former Russian Islamic State fighter who had served a four-year prison sentence out of a maximum of 20 years in exchange for agreeing to work for the FSB in Ukraine.

The fighter, Baurzhan Kultanov, said the FSB ended up sending him to Turkey in the spring of 2022, where he said he was ordered to gather information

about underground efforts to send fighters to Ukraine.

In Ukraine, the FSB reportedly targeted the head of a volunteer battalion fighting on the side of Ukraine since 2014 that has Crimean Tatars and Chechens in its ranks.

"You're our eyes and ears there, but you're not the only one," Kultanov recalled the FSB recruiters as saying to him.

"It would be nice to make you a double and even triple agent so that other special services would want to recruit you," they continued.

"You don't have to invent anything...You're really a terrorist and a Muslim who did time here. Just tell them you don't like Russia and the FSB and want to help. They'll take you in with open arms," Kultanov recalled the officer, Alexander Gushin, as saying. [MoscowTimes]

BERMUDA - People attending the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital emergency department had to wait more than 33 hours on average for an inpatient bed one day last month, new figures reveal.

The peak time was hit on April 30, with the average wait for the two weeks up until May 7 standing at 13.8 hours – down by one hour on the previous fortnight. The Bermuda Hospitals Board said this marked a "slight improvement" in the situation.

On three days during the period the bed waiting time was more than 20 hours on average.

The maximum average wait time for the previous two weeks stood at 27 hours. The figures come after The Royal Gazette revealed that a 76-year-old man was left waiting for a hospital bed for more than two days after arriving in the emergency department.

Although, the number of people attending the emergency department during the period was down by 73 to stand at 1,275, only three fewer patients, 176, needed beds compared with the previous fortnight. The BHB said that on two days the number of people needing beds was double the usual figure. [Royal Gazette]

CARIBBEAN - The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says that reducing the shortage of nurses in the Americas, including the Caribbean, is key to a better response to the next pandemic.

According to the health body, between 600,000 and two million more healthcare professionals,



EARLY HISTORY
OF THE BVI
BVI's Bestseller \*
Few copies remaining
AVAILABLE AT

ISLAND ROOTS AT NANNY CAY
OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE
MUSEUM SHOP
THE ISLAND SUN,
123 MAIN STREET
or contact

islandsun@surfbvi.com

including nurses, are needed to meet the health needs of the population of the Americas.

It, therefore, called for greater investments to close this gap and ensure the region has the personnel necessary to better respond to the next health emergency.

"A well-educated, skilled, and equitably distributed workforce is critical to building resilient health systems, meeting population health needs, and better preparing for future threats and pandemics," said PAHO Director Dr Jarbas Barbosa.

During an event at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in Baltimore, Maryland to celebrate International Nurses Day, the PAHO director highlighted the fundamental role played by healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledged those who lost their lives. According to Barbosa, the investment made by countries of the region in the health workforce to respond to COVID-19 was essential.

However, he said the nursing workforce "continues to face challenges related to shortages, poor distribution, and inadequate working environments." In the region, PAHO said nurses account for 56 percent of all health professions, with 89 percent being women. [CMC News]



on the INTERNET at over 125 platforms including iTunes AMAZON NAPSTER Last FM emusic.com Also see videos on YouTube and listen to the entire album on SPOTIFY and GOOGLE PLAY more information at www.vernon-style.com and FACEBOOK: Vernon Pickering RHYTHMS OF LOVE WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON IN THE BVI: WATCH HIM ON YOUTUBE

# The Sang Sale Up



# Through the Lens of The Sunny Side



HLSCC HOSTS FIRST OF ITS KIND BLUE ECONOMY WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG WOMEN (more on page 36)



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BVICCHA-Business After Hours Event a resounding success (Continue on page 16)

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- . Poetry Corner
- . Tickle My Funny Bones
- Pun Intended

#### **PAGE 16**

BVICCHA-Business After Hours Event a resounding success (Continue from page

#### PAGE 17

Divas On A

Dime

# **BVICCHA Business After Hours Event** a resounding success

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) Chamber of Commerce recently hosted its highly anticipated Business After Hours event, which turned out to be a resounding success. The event brought together professionals from various industries, fostering meaningful connections and networking opportunities. The Chamber extended its heartfelt gratitude to Director Kedreana Parson for her outstanding coordination and generous contribution of drinks. The evening was made even more

memorable by the insightful remarks of Mr. Angel Dawson and Mrs. Dina Perry-Malone, representatives from FirstBank. It was a night of connections and networking which exceeded expectations in terms of turnout and engagement. Attendees had the opportunity to meet and interact with like-minded individuals, establishing valuable connections and potential business collaborations. This event underscored the Chamber's commitment to fostering a thriving

business community in the British Virgin Islands.

The business professionals left the event feeling inspired, motivated, and equipped with new connections and potential business prospects. The Chamber acknowledged the collective efforts of everyone involved in making the evening a remarkable one.

#### **CONTINUED ON PAGE 16**





## Ladyburd Talks...

Dear Readers: Ways to Simplify Your Life (Part 1 of 2)
Here's why simplifying your life is important—everything in your life takes up space. Whether it's mental space, physical space, or calendar space, you only have so much room.

Everything you own, everything you do, and everyone you spend time with costs you something. And when you have an abundance of stuff, it costs you a lot.

Simplifying your life will give you more time, space, and energy. The more space you have, the freer you'll be to truly enjoy everything.

Here are five ways to simplify every area of your life.

#### 1. Declutter your house.

Your environment affects how you feel physically and psychologically. Whether you waste time looking for misplaced items, or you grow overwhelmed every time you open your closet, having too much stuff wastes your resources.

A clean, organized space helps you feel more productive and energetic than when you're living among heaps of clothes, stacks of papers, and piles of dishes.

When you have fewer items to worry about, you'll feel lighter. You'll also have the energy to care for the items that you keep. Start decluttering one room at a time, and see for yourself how much better you feel when you get rid of things you don't need.

#### 2. Get rid of bad mental habits.

Bad mental habits carry a lot of psychological weight. Feeling sorry for yourself, dwelling on the past, and giving away your power are just a few of the unhealthy habits that will drain your mental strength.

Clear the mental clutter and unnecessary chatter. Make space for healthier thinking habits—like gratitude, self-compassion, and realistic self-talk.

When you catch yourself engaging in toxic thinking habits, take a deep breath, remind yourself it's not helpful, and proactively conjure up a more realistic inner dialogue.

Source: https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/what-mentally-strong-people-dont-do/201807/5-ways-simplify-your-life



#### Ladyburd's Mail Box

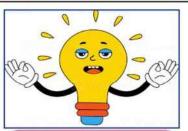
EMAIL ADDRESS:

delseitaliburd@msn.com or islandsunnewsp@gmail.com

Dear Ladyburd: I have a boyfriend who is not working right now, (he should be getting a job soon). and all he does is sit at home and watch Movies. I work long hours and Ladyburd, would you believe he sit at home and wait until I get home to cook for him. When I get home he says how hungry he is. I am really getting upset about this, I am at my whits end right now, Please help....C.J

Ladyburd: Dear CJ: The first thing is, he is not even your husband and even if he was your husband, he should have some conscience, to not expect after a hard day at work you are to come home and make him dinner, when he was at home all day. That cannot be right, and you should tell it to him, I am sure you did not walk with the pots and pans or the stove to work with you. This is a two way street and I am sure if it was the other way around he would get his meals when he comes home. You have to really have a serious talk with this boyfriend of yours.

(Repeat)



### Light Bulb Moments

You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.

A.A. Mine

Happiness is the only thing that multiplies when you share it.

**Albert Schweitzer** 

The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.

**Dolly Parton** 

### Poetry Corner

#### For All You Do

Mom, I should have told you a long time ago how very much I admire and respect you for all you do.
You are extraordinary in your ability to manage so many different tasks and projects, often simultaneously.
What really amazes me is that you do all these things, while showing your love for

while showing your love for me,

true, devoted, mother love, making me feel nurtured and cared for.

Mom, words don't exist to express the deep appreciation and love

I feel for you this Mothers'

Day

and every day,

for all you do.

© By Joanna Fuchs

# Tickle My Funny Bones



#### **Great News**

The newlywed wife said to her husband when he returned from work,

"I have great news for you.

Pretty soon, we're going to be three in this house instead of two."

Her husband ran to her with a smile on his face and delight in his eyes.

He was glowing of happiness and kissing his wife when she said, "I'm glad that you feel this way

since tomorrow morning,
my mother moves in with us."

#### "DANGER! BEWARE OF DOG!"

Upon entering the little country store, the stranger noticed a sign saying "DANGER! BEWARE OF DOG!"

posted on the glass door.

Inside he noticed a harmless old hound dog asleep on the floor beside the cash register.

He asked the store manager,
"Is THAT the dog folks are supposed
to beware of?"

"Yep, that's him," he replied.
The stranger couldn't help but be amused.
"That certainly doesn't look like a
dangerous dog to me.

Why in the world would you post that sign?"
"Because," the owner replied,
"before I posted that sign,
people kept tripping over him."

# **PUN INTENDED**

"I ate 4 bowls of delicious alphabet soup.
After that, I had a massive VOWEL movement."



# BVICCHA Business After Hours Event a resounding success









# Prep Made Easy With Grain Bowls

People often ask me about suggestions for inexpensive meal prep ideas. I have two words: grain bowls.

But what are grain bowls, exactly?

Grain bowls are a complete meal composed of a grain base, greens, protein, veggies and interesting toppings all arranged in a way that's visually appealing.

Whether for breakfast, lunch or dinner, grain bowls are an economical way to prepare quick, easy and nutritious meals. Preparing the components in advance assures a virtually endless number of combinations to ensure you'll never get tired of eating the same ol' grain bowl.

PHOTO CREDIT: www.JasonCoblentz.com

Quinoa
tops a
healthy,
lowcostgrain
bowl

Here's the blueprint to making great grain bowls:

Greens: Start with a giant handful of greens. Spinach, kale, arugula and mixed spring greens are favorites, but any leafy green works.

Grains: Add 1/2 to 1 cup cooked whole grains to your salad foundation. Any whole grain you like, such as brown rice, quinoa, wheat berries, barley or farro. You can cook up a batch of different grains each week for effortless variety.

Dressing: Dress the grains and greens before you add the other goodies, so the dressing is evenly distributed throughout the whole bowl. A squeeze of lemon or simple vinaignette dressing is perfect, or

use your favorite bottled salad dressing. Alternatively, a dollop of salsa, hummus or plain Greek yogurt adds variety.

Beans or Legumes: Add in 1/2 cup cooked beans or legumes. Packed with protein and fiber, dry beans are most affordable, but canned beans are quick and easy. Try chickpeas, great northern beans, black beans or lentils.

Proteins: While beans and grains offer complete protein, boost your bowl by adding hardboiled eggs, sliced deli meats, tuna, chicken, steak, anything you desire. What a perfect use for leftovers!

Veggies and Fruits: Top your bowl with the crunch and color of chopped veggies and fruits. For veggies, think of tomatoes, sweet peppers, cucumbers, mushrooms, carrots, you name it! Don't forget roasted and cooked veggies, too -- like sweet potatoes, caramelized Brussels sprouts, roast butternut squash. Many bowls benefit from a juicy burst of fruity sweetness, especially

breakfast bowls. Enjoy chopped apple, pear, citrus, berries, grapes.

Healthy Fats: For flavor, texture and staying power, add healthy fats to your bowls. Ingredients like nuts, seeds, any kind of cheese and, of course, avocado belong everywhere!

My secret weapon for cheap and easy grain bowls is quinoa. One cup cooked quinoa provides 8 grams of protein. Unlike some plant proteins, quinoa is a complete protein, meaning that it contains all nine essential amino acids that our bodies can't make on their own.



#### **QUICK QUINOA**

Yield: 1 1/2 cups
Time: 27 minutes

- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 3/4 cups water or vegetable broth
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Rinse the quinoa under cold running water in a fine mesh strainer for 1-2 minutes. This helps remove any bitterness from the quinoa. In a medium saucepan, combine the quinoa and water or broth. Add a pinch of salt, if desired.

Bring the mixture to a boil, reduce the heat to low and cover with a lid. Simmer for 15 minutes. Remove the saucepan from the heat and let the quinoa sit, covered, for 10 more minutes.

Fluff the quinoa with a fork and serve.

The easiest way to cook other grains? Boil them like pasta. (I'm a rebel, I know.) Simmer the grains in a good amount of well-salted water, periodically tasting as they cook until they are the right texture, al dente. Then drain them in a fine-mesh strainer.

Now, go mix and match those greens, grains and goodies! See you next week!

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime -- Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www. divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

Visit Patti at www.DotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@ divasonadime.com

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#### HIS MAJESTY'S LOYAL OPPOSITION

PRESS RELEASE

Leader of the Opposition, Honourable Ronnie Skelton and the members of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition have determined and agreed, in consideration of the wishes of the people of the Virgin Islands, to implement a system of shadow subject ministers (the Shadow Subject Ministers System) comprising six members sitting opposition to the ruling

The portfolio of the Shadow Subject Ministers System will be as follows:

Government members.

Leader of the Opposition -

#### Hon. Ronnie W. Skelton Portfolio Related Matters

- Finance
- Food security\*\*
- Gaming
- Immigration
- Banking
- Town & Country Planning
- Shipping Registry
- Health & Social Development\*\*
- Alternative

# Energy\*\* Hon. Myron W. Walwyn Portfolio Related Matters

- Tourism
- Education\*\*
- Culture (Festival & Fairs)
- Financial
   Services\*\*
- Macro-Economic Planning

#### Hon. Marlon A. Penn Portfolio Related Matters

- Health & Social Development\*\*
- Housing
   Development
- Trade and Economic Affairs
- Financial
   Services\*\*
- Information and Telecommunications
  Technology

#### Hon. Julian Fraser Portfolio Related Matters

- Alternative
  Energy\*\*
- All subject matters falling under communication and works

#### Hon. Melvin Mitch Turnbull Portfolio Related Matters

- Natural Resources
- National Health Insurance
- Social Security
- Lands
- Climate Change
- Labour

#### Hon. Stacy Mather MBE Portfolio Related Matters

- · Agriculture & Fisheries
- Food Security\*\*
- Education\*\*
- Youth Affairs & Sports

\*\*portfolio areas shared with another member of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition The Leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition and all members fully commit to operating the Shadow Subject Ministers System as effectively as possible in an effort to deliver to the people of the Virgin Islands the best possible Government, of you the people, elected by you the people, and working for you the people.

### The Eric Williams Memorial Collection

Eric Williams Memorial Collection Sponsors 2023-2024 Regional 'School Bags' Essay Competition

Port of Spain, TRINIDAD and TOBAGO (May 16, 2023). The Eric Williams Memorial Collection Research Library, Archives & Museum (EWMC) at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Trinidad and Tobago, announces this year's "Eric Williams 'School Bags' Essay Competition." Judges are: Dr. Rita Pemberton, retired Chair, UWI Department of History; Dr. Trevor Burnard, Director, Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull; Dr. Sasha Turner, Johns Hopkins University. The contest was inaugurated in 2007, with its then champion going on to become the Bennet Boskey Fellow in Atlantic Studies at Oxford University.

As social media becomes the global playground for our kids, amidst its implications for the disintegration of relationships, it has become a clear and present danger to democracy, utilizing disinformation and misinformation to "educate" its adherents to a particular way of thinking that often bears no relation either to truth or facts. And yet, we have seen it successfully used to promote freedom from tyranny, and to raise awareness of society's injustices.

This year's topic, then, asks students to determine if it is a help or a hindrance, and what impact it has on civil society or politics in the 21st century. Throughout his life, Dr. Eric Williams, noted scholar/historian and the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, gave special emphasis to learning. "To educate is to emancipate." On August 30, 1962, the eve of his country's Independence from Britain, he exhorted: "You, the children, yours is the great responsibility to educate your parents, teach them to live together in harmony...To your tender and loving hands, the future of the Nation is entrusted. In your innocent hearts, the pride of the Nation is enshrined. On your scholastic development, the salvation of the Nation is dependent...you carry the future of [the Nation] in your school bags."

The contest has been offered to all Lower and Upper Sixth Form (CAPE or equivalent) students in: Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos – some 177 schools. It is being held through June 30, 2023. First, second and third awards will be announced on September 15, 2023.

The first prize consists of a four-day trip for two to Trinidad and Tobago with airfare, hotel accommodations and per diem allowance; a tour of The Eric Williams Memorial Collection and University of the West Indies campus; a US \$1000 educational voucher; courtesy calls on the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a tour of Parliament; a set of Eric Williams' books; an interview on University of the West Indies (UWI) TV; radio and TV interviews in various Caribbean countries; and a framed certificate. In the event of a Trinidad and Tobago winner, a trip to another Caribbean territory will be

substituted, as well as appropriate tours. The successful school secures a set of Eric Williams' books, and the loan of a large presentation trophy plaque, listing prior schools. The essay will also be published in: Miami, Florida's Caribbean Today newspaper;

CARICOM's newsletter; The Trinidad Express newspaper; and UWI Today's magazine. A link to the essay will be publicized in Caribbean Airlines' inflight magazine, Caribbean Beat, and a photograph and blurb of the winner will appear in the Journal of African American History.

Patrons of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection's 'School Bags' Essay Competition are: Banwari Experience; Caribbean Airlines; Caribbean Beat Inflight Magazine; Caribbean Development Bank; Caribbean Today; CARICOM; Courtyard by Marriott, Trinidad; Hyatt Regency, Trinidad; Journal of African American History; One Caribbean Media, Ltd.; Trinidad and Tobago's Office of the Prime Minister, Parliament and Speaker of the House of Representatives; UNESCO, Trinidad; University of the West Indies; UWI TV. The Eric Williams Memorial Collection Research Library, Archives & Museum was inaugurated by former US Secretary of State Colin Powell in 1998, and named to UNESCO's prestigious Memory of the World Register in 1999. For more information, please contact Erica Williams Connell, The Eric Williams Memorial Collection P.O. Box 561631, Miami, FL 33256- 1631, USA. Fax: (305) 271-4160; Website: www.ericwilliamsmemorialcollection.org



# THE WEEK IN CORRUPTION

#### BY TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

On Wednesday, Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan was arrested on corruption charges. With more than 100 cases lodged against him – including allegations of corruption, terrorism and contempt of court – many believe that Khan's arrest was inevitable.

The arrest shook the nation and led to violent

country-wide protests, leaving eight dead and over a thousand in custody. Due to the dramatic nature of his arrest — which members of Khan's party called a "state abduction" — inside a court complex, the Supreme Court deemed it illegal and ordered his immediate release the very next day.

On 10 May, clashes broke out between protesters and police in Peshawar, among other cities.

Prior to entering the political sphere, Khan was a renowned cricketer. This contributed to his popularity when he ran for prime minister and came into power in 2018. His political ideology resonated with many, given his promises to tackle corruption, and promote economic development, good governance and social welfare.

But little was accomplished on any of these fronts. However, several high-profile corruption cases have been investigated and prosecuted under Khan's government, including cases against former prime minister Nawaz Sharif and former president Asif Ali Zardari.

And then Khan may have become the target of his successor...

Last April, he was ousted by the opposition led by current Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif based on a no-confidence vote. What's more, he was barred from running for office for five years after it was found that he failed to declare profits made from selling gifts during his tenure. Khan was subsequently indicted by a court over this. Given the previous political history with the Sharif brothers, many of Khan's followers believe his arrest could be politically motivated.

Still, Khan faces a multitude of corruption charges. Last June, the Sharif government claimed that Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi received land worth US\$24.7 million from a Pakistani real estate tycoon. It is alleged that the land transfer for the construction of an educational institution was a

bribe made through a trust headed by Khan and Bibi.

Khan is the seventh prime minister to be arrested in Pakistan, making it clear that the issues run deeper than him. While political control has always been a highly coveted bone of contention in Pakistan, it has taken precedence over addressing critical issues

like circular debt, education and healthcare. The country is already grappling with its worst economic turmoil in history and the current political instability is only making things worse.

What happens next in this persistent struggle for power remains to be seen. But it is imperative for the current government to not allow political scandals to derail comprehensive anti-corruption efforts that Pakistan desperately needs.

Pakistan is one of the significant decliners on the 2022 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI). With a score of 28 out of 100 – its lowest since 2012 – the country is experiencing a downwards trend. Political turmoil has rocked the nation and the government must take concrete steps to fulfil anti-corruption promises.







• Is it true that Christina Apple• gate has quit acting due to her health? Does she have any upcoming shows she's already filmed, or was "Dead to Me" her last? — A.I.

A. Christina Applegate was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, an autoimmune neuromuscular disorder, while co-starring in the Netflix series "Dead to Me." It was an enormous physical challenge for her to film the final season. She credited the kind cast, crew and bosses on the set for helping her get through her scenes, allowing her to take naps when needed.

In November of last year, she was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and hinted that she might quit acting. Recently, this month, she made it official, saying that she wouldn't do anymore on-camera acting. Fortunately, she plans to support herself doing voice work, including reprising her role as Kelly Bundy in an upcoming animated series version of "Married with Children."

• Is Arnold Schwarzenegger's new show the first time he's acted in anything since he was the governor of California? Also, did he and Maria ever divorce? — Q.S.

• World-famous bodybuilderturned-movie-star-turnedpolitical-figure ended his two terms as California's governor in 2011. That same year, his wife, Maria Shriver, filed for divorce after it was made public that Schwarzenegger fathered a child with the family's longtime housekeeper. Their divorce was finalized in 2021.

After Schwarzenegger exited the governor's post, he quietly returned to show business in the action film "The Expendables" and its sequel opposite Sylvester Stallone. In 2015, he starred in "Terminator Genisys," and in 2019, he starred in "Terminator: Dark Fate," which also featured Linda Hamilton's return as Sarah Connor. In the past two years, he's exclusively done voice work for animated shows and video games, but this May marked his return to comedy.

In the new Netflix series "FUBAR," he plays a newly returned CIA agent whose lured in for one last job, when he learns someone close to him is also a secret agent. There's plenty of action,



Courtesy of Ne

Christina Applegate in the series "Dead to Me"

but it's also a great vehicle to showcase Schwarzenegger's wit, which was a big hit in movies like "Twins" and "Kindergarten Cop" in the late '80s and early '90s.

• Why did CBS cancel
• "S.W.A.T.?" I thought it was one of those foolproof hit shows that would be around for a long time.

— B.M.

A: "S.W.A.T." actually lasted six seasons on CBS, so it was definitely a bonafide hit, but never reached high numbers like "NCIS," "Law & Order" and other network dramas that have spawned spin-off after spin-off.

Star Shemar Moore was outraged by the cancellation of his show, stating in a video he posted on social media that they've been "killing it" in its 8 p.m. Friday night slot for the past two years. He also expressed his disappointment, as they were led to believe there would be "some semblance of a season seven to at least say goodbye, if not continue," but instead, it was announced that this season would be its last.

Moore remains hopeful that the network will have a change of heart, so if you're a fan, keep your fingers crossed.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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# Prescription Costs \$500 for a Month's Supply

DEAR DR. ROACH: What can you tell me about a prescription of 145 mcg of Linzess, and why a doctor would prescribe a pill over \$500? What are the advantages to taking this? Surely, there must be something less expensive that will provide the same results. — J.P.

ANSWER: Linaclotide (Linzess or Constella) is a medicine used for constipation, either in people with irritable bowel syndrome or in people with constipation for no particular reason. It works by activating a protein to allow chloride and bicarbonate (along with fluid) into the intestine.

Since it is not absorbed into the body, it has few side effects. The major side effect is that it can work too well and cause diarrhea. This is enough of a concern that the medicine is not used in children under the age of 2. There are three different strengths: 72, 145 and 290 mcg.

If you are asking me to defend pharmaceutical pricing, I can't do that. I very seldom use this medicine because there are so many other options for constipation — starting with a different diet without using any medicine at all. But in people with occasional constipation despite having a good diet, I usually start with fiber supplements.

If those don't work, I recommend a surfactant such as docusate (Colace), which allows more water to enter the stool. Yet another option would be nonabsorbable substances like polyethylene glycol (MiraLAX and others), lactulose, sorbitol and magnesium. All of these are much less expensive.

However, there are still people who don't do well with any of these less-expensive (and also tried-andtrue) alternatives. Linzess has made a real difference in the lives of several of my patients. It is usually prescribed by an expert (a gastroenterologist) at least in the case of my patients.

Finally, Linzess is roughly \$20 a pill or about \$500 for a month's supply in the U.S. without insurance. Some people only need it occasionally and are very willing to pay, even if insurance doesn't cover it.

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DEAR DR. ROACH: The other day, when we were changing our bedsheets, my husband asked me if I knew why the sheets and pillowcases on his side of the bed were stained yellow and the ones on my side weren't. My only thought was that he has a very strong body odor. My high school biology classes came back to me, and I remembered that our sense of smell is a lock-and-key mechanism, where odor comes from a tiny particle that locks into the sensors within our olfactory system. So, I thought that the particles might be staining the bedding. Could this be so? - J.M.

ANSWER: Chromhidrosis is the name for colored sweat, and it isn't uncommon. Both men and women can have chromhidrosis. There are several possible causes. One is that the sweat glands themselves can excrete a colored substance, such as lipofuscin, which often causes a yellow discoloration.

I admire your using high school biology, but I don't think you are right in this case. The odor in sweat comes from bacteria that lives in and around the sweat glands. The bacteria themselves rarely cause discoloration, but yellow isn't typical for bacteria.

Occasionally, medicines can cause sweat to turn a different color. The laxative bisacodyl (Dulcolax and others) can cause people to have yellow sweat, and some antiperspirants will cause sweat to have a yellow color.

Since it's both the sheets and pillowcases, I suspect that it's the lipofuscin in this case. Treatment may not be necessary, but capsaicin cream (0.025%) has proven effective, although the mechanism behind how it works is unknown.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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By Lucie Winborne

- According to Cunningham's Law, the best way to get the right answer on the internet is not to ask a question, but to pose the wrong answer.
- Jazz trumpeter Louis Armstrong once asked President Richard Nixon to carry his bags through customs for him because Armstrong was "an old man."
   We feel pretty sure Nixon wasn't aware the bags contained marijuana.
- In 2015, the 1,000-year-old corpse of a Buddhist monk was discovered inside an ancient statue of Buddha.
- Never mind Freddy Krueger's mutilated face and clawed glove Wes Craven designed his red-and-greenstriped sweater after he read in Scientific American that the human eye has difficulty recognizing those particular shades. Therefore, just looking at his pullover is subliminally unsettling!
- The first item sold on eBay, for \$14.83, was a broken laser pointer, to someone who kept a collection of broken laser pointers.
- Costa Rica has the world's only sloth orphanage.
- During the Apollo 12 mission, a 2 1/2-ton piece of the lunar module was experimentally crashed onto the surface of the moon, with a quite unexpected result: The moon "rang like a bell" for nearly an hour.
- Dockers recently increased the size of their coin pockets to accommodate the growing size of smartphones.
- In 1999, 15-year-old Jonathan Lebed was making up to \$74,000 a day in the stock market by using internet message boards to manipulate prices. The government eventually caught up with him, but he was still able to keep half a million dollars of his gains.
- Vending machines kill more people per year than sharks.
- Pork was once used in Spain during the Inquisition to show that one wasn't Jewish or Muslim.

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Thought for the Day: "Love doesn't make the world go round. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile." — Franklin P. Jones

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OUR WEBSITE islandson.com IS FACING TECHNICAL ISSUES and will be off the internet for a while, in the meantime we strongly recommend to use and visit

# islandsunbvi.com

# **COMMENTARY**

# Cain and Abel

#### Dickson Igwe



Dickson Igwe May 12, 2023

Fratricide- brother killing brother- appears endemic in black communities in the USA. That sad narrative has visited the shores of the British Virgin Islands. Our paradise is being lost by hatred and feuding between members of a supposedly close-knit community. It has to stop.

OK. The Bible asserts that the love of money is at the root of every evil. That warning is clearly unheeded in the Virgin Islands. The real tragedy is that these islands are a tiny community: in essence a large village. Every violent death affects everyone else. The need to acquire quick wealth is at the heart of recent gun deaths. What will it take to stop the madness?

Guns cause the vast number of murders in the land. Then, the reality is that countries where gun possession is high such as the USA also have the greatest number of gun murders. Worse still is that it is the historically oppressed black community that suffers the most from gun crimes.

In fact, the murder rate from guns in the USA is exponentially higher than in any other country. Just pay a visit across the channel to the United States Virgin Islands to observe this reality.

Is there a solution? Politicians and community leaders preach of the evil of guns in the community regularly, but their words go unheeded. We all wait in horror for news of the next murder hoping it is not someone in our family. Young men of the Virgin

Islands rest the guns down and settle your differences in a wise manner. You kill your brother or cousin to what avail. You end up in prison for twentyfive years. In essence, your life is at an end. The reality is everyone silently considers you a murderer. Who wants to employ a murderer and ex- convict? That is the outcome of crime. You are on a slippery slope to nowhere. There are better ways for dealing with business than murder. Leave that illegal business alone that ends in death or prison. Why put your close family at risk and in sorrow. That is why

getting a skill is crucial for our youth. A skilled man has no need for crime.

Families and community who know where these guns are should get them to the police. Warn your children, relatives, and siblings, to give up their weapons.

There is no reason why a small community cannot solve its disputes in a civilized fashion.

Take heed, as the next bullet could have your name written on it, even if you are innocent.

We are losing our safe paradise. How sad. Dickson Igwe





# Caribbean News / Regional News

### Oil company pumps billions of dollars into Guyana's economy



Minister of Natural Resources Vickram Bharrat presents ExxonMobil Guyana President Alistair Routledge with a Letter of Approval for the company's 2023 Annual Local Content Plan. - Contributed photo. Published: Wednesday | May 17, 2023 content plan last year.

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, CMC - Oil company ExxonMobil Guyana says it has injected more than GUY\$80 billion into the local economy as the government this week approved its 2023 plan as well as providing a certificate for complying with its local

9:14 AM

The GUY\$80 billion in

investment forms part of the more than GUY\$180 billion spent since 2015.

"By the end of 2022, the company and contractors had employed over 5,000 Guyanese workers, representing more than 65 per cent of the overall

workforce in the local oil and gas industry.

"Notably, the numbers of Guyanese working offshore continued to grow. Among the 2,700 personnel committed to supporting ExxonMobil Guyana's operations, over 1,300 were Guyanese, constituting approximately 48 per cent of the offshore workforce," the company said in a statement.

The company said in the 2023 plan it intends to execute projects and implement systems to promote the development of local content this year.

"ExxonMobil Guyana's evolving strategic plan for operational growth includes balancing meeting the needs of the business while developing Guyanese content in a phased approach," the company said, adding "It is assessed annually to ensure objectives are met in a sustainable and systematic manner."

### JAMAICA WELCOMES OVER 1.5 MILLION **VISITORS SINCE JANUARY 1, 2023 - BARTLETT**

Kingston, Jamaica; May 16, 2023: With the Jamaican tourism sector continuing on its robust growth trajectory for 2023, Minister of Tourism, Hon. Edmund Bartlett, has revealed that as of May 10, 2023, the island has welcomed just over 1.5 million total visitors, with provisional gross earnings exceeding US\$ 1.6 billion for the same period.

Minister Bartlett made the announcement on the heels of the 41st Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association's (CHTA) Caribbean Travel Marketplace in Barbados, where he received the President's Award Caribbean Excellence Tourism. The tourism minister

shared that the current yearto-date figures revealed that Destination Jamaica hit this target ahead of projections.

"Between January 1, 2023 and May 10, we received 1,586,303 total visitors, stopover and earning US\$1.69 billion, putting our destination on par with 2019 record figures. We have seen steady growth in our arrivals and continued investment in the tourism sector, which is a tremendous achievement," said Minister Bartlett.

The tourism minister stressed that strategic investments and resilience building were key areas of focus in sustaining the strong recovery of the

tourism sector. He further cited intensified marketing efforts, increased room capacity and expanded airlift connectivity as critical drivers behind the boom in tourist arrivals.

In this regard, Minister Bartlett stated: "To keep this growth on an upward trajectory, we continue to secure new air service with the addition of new routes by prestigious carriers such as American Airlines, Frontier Airlines, Spirit Airlines, Arajet, and Edelweiss Airlines. Plus, we are expanding and modernizing Sangster International Airport and have approximately 8,000 new hotel rooms slated for construction over the next two

#### A NEW PUBLICATION FOR **CARIBBEAN-FOCUSED** TRAVEL AGENTS

The world's largest Caribbean travel Website, Caribbean Journal, has launched a new digital publication specifically for travel agents and travel advisors who sell the Caribbean.

The new Caribbean Travel Advisor includes 24-7 content focused on the things that matter to travel advisors: incentives, fees, commissions, FAM trips, agent education and destination and hotel content, powered by the team at Caribbean Journal.

"Caribbean Journal has always had a significant audience in the travel advisor community, and the new Caribbean Travel Advisor is a publication that speaks directly to them," said Alexander Britell, editor and publisher of Caribbean Journal. "CTA will bring Caribbean-focused content and newsletters to the most important influencers of all - those who book travel to the Caribbean on a daily basis."

Caribbean Travel Advisor, which officially launched this week, has kicked off with a built-in audience of the more than 50,000 travel advisors and agents who receive Caribbean Journal each day.

"Travel advisors have always loved our content, but CTA is a way of giving them the kind of exclusive, specific information they need to do their jobs," said Guy Britton, managing editor and EVP of Caribbean Journal. "It's also a way for destinations and hotels to reach this very targeted, impactful readership."

Caribbean Travel Advisor is part of the broader Caribbean Journal portfolio, which includes Caribbean Journal, Caribbean Journal Invest, Bonaire Rum Week and the Caribbean Rum Awards St Barth. For more, visit Caribbean Travel Advisor.

to five years."

Minister Bartlett highlighted that the Ministry of Tourism's Blue Ocean Strategy as well as its Destination Assurance Framework and Strategy continue to influence the development of a more resilient sustainable, diverse tourism product.

"Jamaica is leveraging key pillars for tourism that showcase destination's unique

culture and heritage while simultaneously addressing the desire of today's traveller to experience more than just sun, sea and sand. We need to carefully manage the industry through resilience building, so it can continually adapt to issues that may arise and put plans in place to protect it from potential future shocks," noted Minister Bartlett.



# VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NIEWS

# Biden Cancels PNG, Australia Trips for Talks Over US Debt Ceiling



Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy of California, left, and Vice President Kamala Harris, middle, listen to U.S. President Joe Biden during debt ceiling talks at the White House, May 16, 2023, in Washington. Biden has canceled trips abroad next week to continue the talks.

WHITE HOUSE -

President Joe Biden canceled his trips to Papua New Guinea and Australia next week to continue debt ceiling talks with congressional leaders that he held Tuesday at the White House.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement that the president would to return to Washington on Sunday, following the Group of Seven summit in Hiroshima, Japan, "in order to be back for meetings with congressional leaders to ensure that Congress takes action by the deadline to avert default."

When asked what kind of message the change in the president's plan would convey to allies and partners he was scheduled to meet, National Security Council Coordinator for Strategic Communications John Kirby told reporters during a briefing earlier Tuesday that leaders would "understand that the president also has to focus on making sure that we don't default."

Biden will depart for Hiroshima on Wednesday. From Japan, Biden was scheduled to continue to Sydney for the Quad Summit with a brief stop in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, to meet with Pacific Island Forum leaders. The meetings had been billed as opportunities to deepen cooperation on regional challenges and advance U.S. strategic interests in countering China's influence.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Wednesday the Quad meeting in Sydney would be postponed, but that since all the Quad leaders would be in Japan for the G-7 talks, they would try to get together on the sidelines of those meetings.

It would not be the first time an American president skipped a summit over budget disputes at home. Barack Obama canceled a trip to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Indonesia and the East Asia summit in Brunei in 2013 because of a government shutdown over a budget disagreement, and Bill Clinton pulled out of the APEC Japan meeting in 1995, also during a debt ceiling dispute.

'A mini-G-20'

Hiroshima is the venue for this year's May 19-21 summit of the G-7, a grouping of the world's leading industrial nations, including the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Leaders will try to find alignment in countering Beijing's use of trade and investment restrictions, boycotts and sanctions — practices the West views as Chinese "economic coercion." They will do so through export controls and restrictions on investment from their own nations to China, while seeking to slow China's technological advance and reduce its dominance of the global supply chain

More than a year after Russia invaded Ukraine, the meeting will also focus on supporting Kyiv's defense and ratcheting up economic pressure on Russia through broader export bans. G-7 members, mainly those in Europe, still export around \$4.7 billion a month to Russia, about 43% of what they did before the invasion — mostly pharmaceuticals, machinery, food and chemicals.

As part of his outreach to the Global South, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan, this year's G-7 host, has invited Australia, Brazil, Comoros, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, South Korea, Ukraine and Vietnam.

"A little bit like the G-7 trying to create a mini-G-20 without China

and Russia," said Josh Lipsky, senior director of the Atlantic Council's GeoEconomics Center, in a briefing to reporters Friday.

Looming over the meeting is the concern that financial instability from the threat of a U.S. default and the recent collapse of three American banks will spill over into the rest of the world. That would particularly hurt countries in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia that are struggling with post-pandemic debt accumulated through infrastructure and other loans mainly from China.

There have been calls to reduce those debts to more manageable levels, said Shihoko Goto, deputy director of the Asia program at the Wilson Center. However, she told VOA, "Without having China there, there isn't really going to be much momentum."

#### Symbolism of setting

Nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation are also at the top of this year's agenda, with Kishida's symbolic choice of hosting the summit in his hometown of Hiroshima, a city destroyed by an atomic weapon in 1945.

Notably lacking in this G-7 is the push to provide funding for global infrastructure projects as an alternative to China's Belt and Road Initiative, which was a focus in the last two G-7 summits.

Biden's trip to Papua New Guinea would have been the first for a U.S. president, following Vice President Mike Pence's trip to the 2018 Asia Pacific Economic Forum in Port Moresby.

"There is no question but that this is a disappointment to the leaders of the Pacific Islands and the Quad, particularly Australia and PNG," said Daniel Russel, vice president for international security and diplomacy at the Asia Society Policy Institute. "It will be seen in the region as a self-inflicted wound caused by political polarization in Washington that does not reflect well on America's reliability as a partner."

He was scheduled to meet with Prime Minister James Marape and other leaders of the Pacific Island Forum, a grouping of 18 countries and territories spanning more than 30 million square kilometers of ocean. The meeting was intended to establish stronger strategic ties and deter those nations from making security deals with China amid rising tensions over Taiwan.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has visited the region three times, setting up infrastructure projects and signing a 2022 security pact with the Solomon Islands.

"The U.S. needs to make up ground in the region," said Charles Edel, the inaugural Australia Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, during a briefing earlier this week. "Years of strategic neglect from Washington produced a strategic vacuum that China was eager to step into."

#### ChatGPT's Chief Testifies Before US Congress as Concerns Grow About AI Risks

WASHINGTON -

The head of the artificial intelligence company that makes ChatGPT told U.S. Congress on Tuesday that government intervention "will be critical to mitigate the risks of increasingly powerful" AI systems.

"As this technology advances, we understand that people are anxious about how it could change the way we live. We are too," OpenAI CEO Sam Altman testified at a Senate hearing Tuesday.

His San Francisco-based startup rocketed to public attention after it released ChatGPT late last year. ChatGPT is a free chatbot tool that answers questions with convincingly human-like responses.

What started out as a panic among educators about ChatGPT's use to cheat on homework assignments has expanded to broader concerns about the ability of the latest crop of "generative AI" tools to mislead people, spread falsehoods, violate copyright protections and upend some jobs.

And while there's no immediate sign that Congress will craft sweeping new AI rules, as European lawmakers are doing, the societal concerns brought Altman and other tech CEOs to the White House earlier this month and have led U.S. agencies to promise to crack down on harmful AI products that break existing civil rights and consumer protection laws.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, the Connecticut Democrat who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on privacy, technology and the law, opened the hearing with a recorded speech that sounded like the senator, but was actually a voice clone trained on Blumenthal's floor speeches and reciting a speech written by ChatGPT after he asked the chatbot, "How I would open this hearing?"

The result was impressive, said Blumenthal, but he added, "What if I had asked it, and what if it had provided, an endorsement of Ukraine surrendering or (Russian President) Vladimir Putin's leadership?"

Blumenthal said AI companies ought to be required to test their systems and disclose known risks before releasing them.

Founded in 2015, OpenAI is also known for other AI products including the image-maker DALL-E. Microsoft has invested billions of dollars into the startup and has integrated its technology into its own products, including its search engine Bing.

Altman is also planning to embark on a worldwide tour this month to national capitals and major cities across six continents to talk about the technology with policymakers and the public. On the eve of his Senate testimony, he dined with dozens of U.S. lawmakers, several of whom told CNBC they were impressed by his comments.

Also testifying will be IBM's chief privacy and trust officer, Christina Montgomery, and Gary Marcus, a professor emeritus at New York University who was among a group of AI experts who called on OpenAI and other tech firms to pause their development of more powerful AI models for six months to give society more time to consider the risks. The letter was a response to the March release of OpenAI's latest model, GPT-4, described as more powerful than ChatGPT.

"Artificial intelligence will be transformative in ways we can't even imagine, with implications for Americans' elections, jobs, and security," said the panel's ranking Republican, Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri. "This hearing marks a critical first step towards understanding what Congress should do." Altman and other tech industry leaders have said they welcome some form of Al oversight but have cautioned against what they see as overly heavy-handed rules. In a copy of her prepared remarks, IBM's Montgomery asks Congress to take a "precision regulation" approach.

"This means establishing rules to govern the deployment of AI in specific use-cases, not regulating the technology itself," Montgomery said.

# SPORTS-4-XXXX

# Ricketts, Lindsay claims Trident Trust 5K titles

By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

TRIDENT TRUST 5K

Jermaine "JJ" Ricketts and Katrina "Kat" Lindsay, were crowned Trident Trust 5K Series champions, when the five race tour stops around Tortola, ended in Road Town at the A. O. Grounds on Saturday.

Ricketts, who went gate to wire, was timed in 18 minutes and 15.48 seconds. Julius Farley finished second in 19:02..08, and Mark Stephenson third in 19:27.02.

"It was a good race but it was so hot.," Ricketts told Island Sun Sports. "I started off so fast but still I tried to maintain that speed. Before I left the track, I was in front. By the time I got to the Moorings' side, everyone was like a minute behind so I knew I went out too fast, but still I maintained that speed and kept going. It feels wonderful to be the overall champ."

Farley said Ricketts went out fast as usual and he tried to stay with him, but couldn't. "Then me and young Victor (Joash) battled it out for the first two miles, then I went and left him," Farley said, noting that he has been impressive this year. "Maybe he tries too hard too early and needs to tone down a little bit. I've spoken to him and he needs just a bit more and he'll be a good runner. Maybe by the next season, he'd give us trouble. I can see that already, once he keeps training."

Victor said it was a good race and he gained more confidence over the course of the series and felt relaxed as it progressed. "It came to the point where I felt that I could have finished strong and I did that today, so I'm proud of myself," he said. "What I've learned about myself is going into a race, I get too excited and have to learn to pace myself because at the end is where you have to exert your energy and go for that last push. That's the thing I learned over the course of the races. That's the thing that would help me develop next year."

Told that Farley said he'd give problems next year, Victor said: "Yes, he knows what's coming."

Despite losing her shoe bottom, Lindsay, the top woman, was 5th overall in 20:37.33 and repeated as Trident Trust 5K Series champion. Julaine Potgieter grabbed second in 23:47.06, while Carli Human, placed third in 24:03.34.

"It was interesting. My shoe came apart while I was running,"



Award winners and officials in the Trident Trust 5K Series finale Photo Credit: Cleave M. Farrington Photography

Lindsay said. "I had to run with one and a half shoes. The bottom came off and the top stayed on. I ran like 20:40, so it was way off what I was hoping I'd run. It was a new experience, hopefully the first and last time that will happen."

Lindsay, who missed the last race, said it was hot but it had a really nice turnout. The race was a nice run, good atmosphere and a nice finish at the end with everyone chatting.

Newbie Priya Mathu, was second overall in the series. "I was surprised," she told Island Sun Sports. "Because there are a lot of faster people. It was tight between me and Vicki (Francis) and today we had a little race at the end, so it was good."

Mathu said while everyone went out fast since they were on the track, she too went out fast—but not as fast as everyone else. "I tried to keep the pace and pick people off along the way and that worked," she noted. That was my personal touch."

Race Director Kay Reddy, said

it was a really fast race, great participation and lots of battles including one with her and Darwn Peters, who ran off and "snatched the national 5K championship," she said. "Joash Victor won the BVI (male) championship race. Thanks to our race officer Deanaidia Greenaway, Broderick Penn, Stephanie Russ Penn and all the volunteers, who we couldn't have done the race without."

### Hill 2nd in C-USA 400m, DeFreitas claims 200m record

# TRACK

After a year after being out of competition because of a hamstring injury, University of Texas El Paso's Josh Hill, completed his season with a second finish in the Conference USA 400m on Saturday. He ran 47.18 seconds after advancing with 47.22.

Hill said his performance was fairly good but he has more in the tank and he's blessed. "I couldn't do it without God for sure and I feel the only reason I'm running right now is because of God," he said. "To get where I am right now, especially with the circumstance I had last year with the hamstring injury, it's for sure a blessing. Dipping under 47 this year was exciting. It was definitely a milestone that I've reached. I'm just praying and grinding for more in the near future," At the AAC Championships, Univ of Central Florida's Bevonce DeFreitas, was fourth in both the 100m and 200m. She ran 11.24

with a +2.4m/s wind, after getting to the final in 11.39. Her 22.81(+1.4) seconds improved her 23.13 best and broke Tahesia Harrigan-Scott's 200m National Record of 22.98 from 2007. She became the third BVI athlete to run under 23.00 secs under all conditions. She won her heat in 23.30 (+1.1) to advance.

At the same meet, South Florida's Jaleel Croal was slowed by hamstring tightness in the 100m final, after he ran a season bests of 20.95 secs (+1.2) in the 200m and 10.56 (-0.2) in

#### By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

the 100m. Croal ran 10.42 (+2.9) in the 100m final and 23.96 n(+2.4) in the 200m,

finishing to give his team a point.



UTEP's Josh Hill running the 400m





Island Sun Sports Editor Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway and his 1978 Pasadena City College track and field team that won the school's 1st state title, were inducted into the PCC Hall of Fame



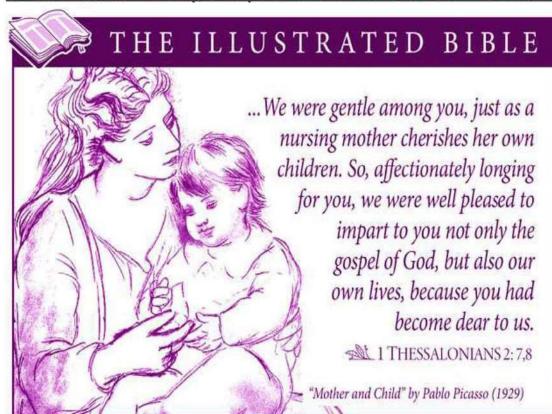
Raw Power's Jacintha Weekes, keeping the ball in play vs Kiss My Ace



Talent Ex teammates J'Nya Demming, left, and Ashleigh Penn, compete in the 200m



Problems first baseman Tylia "Tweety" Nibbs, catches a pop fly as Synergy's Coach Neville "Sheep" Smith looks on



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps





"MY NAME IS..." BUT THEN A BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES...



... AND THE BLOND WARRIOR DISAPPEARS — IN A FLASH!

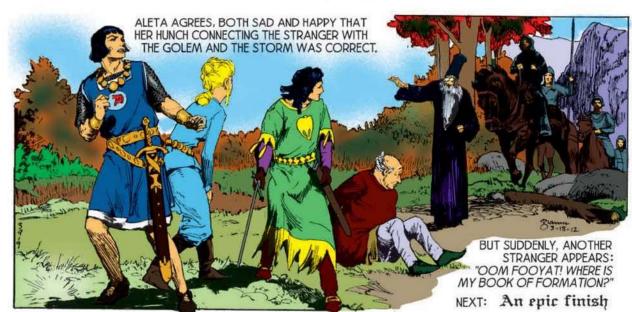


VAL STARES IN DISBELIEF: "HE'S VANISHED!" ALETA WHISPERS: "PERHAPS THE SORCERY CAUGHT UP HIS SOUL ALONG WITH THE GOLEM.

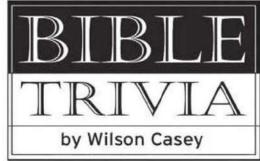


"OF COURSE! HE'S BACK WHERE HE BELONGS,"
VAL REPLIES. "HE HAD THE RIGHT SPIRIT- I WISH
HIM WELL. BUT ENOUGH - LET US RETURN TO
OUR HOME AND THE WAYS I KNOW BEST."









- 1. Is the book of Esther in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- Which of Jesus' disciples walked on the water with Him? Andrew, Peter, James, John
- 3. From the Bible, who interpreted the handwriting on the wall? *David*, *Joseph, Daniel, Belshazzar*
- Who was the other man on trial with Jesus that the crowd freed? Barnabus, Barabbas, Pontius, Caesar
- 5. How many days did Jesus pray in the desert? 3, 10, 20, 40
- Where did the Lord tell Jonah to go? Jericho, Ninevah, Jerusalem, Israel

#### Answers

1) Old; 2) Peter; 3) Daniel; 4) Barabbas; 5) 40; 6) Ninevah

# Salome's

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Single Lambs looking for love could find Cupid aiming at someone you thought (wrongly) was uninterested. Paired Sheep could soon make plans to move into new pastures.

into new pastures.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
Level that sharp Bull's eye of yours
directly at the target you're after.
Don't let yourself get sidetracked by
any misleading or deceptive attempts
to distract you.

to distract you. **GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Early enthusiasm gives way to a more reflective attitude, as you assess the potential of a new job. Avoid questionable advice. The ultimate decision should be yours.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might need to reassess the responsibility you've taken on. Consider delegating some of the tasks to people you trust and focus on those things you do best

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Don't be shy about sharing new ideas with your workplace colleagues. Their warm reception and trusted support will soon have you purring with sat-

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) That uneasiness over a potential commitment should be confronted and dealt with realistically. Find out why you're delaying an important decision

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your business venture gets back into high gear after a brief period of sputtering. Don't be discouraged. Stay with it. Your hard work and patience will pay off.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Watch out for a tendency to let things slide in hopes that a problem will correct itself. You need to be more proactive than reactive if you want to see change.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A wilting relationship could recover and be coaxed back into full bloom, as long as there is a strong commitment to your partner to make the relationship your priority.

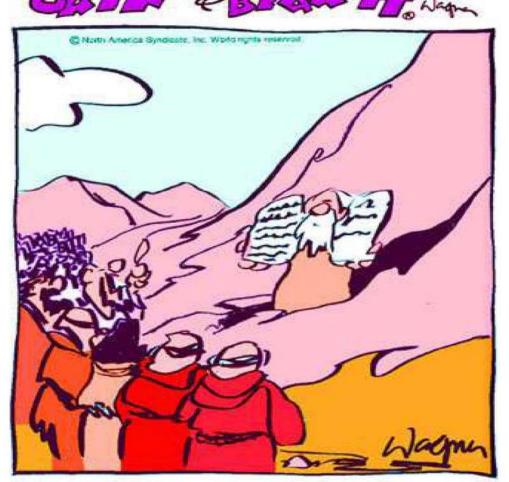
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Before you accept a new job offer, check on the status of a promotion you were promised in your current workplace. Then, make a decision.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Expect to find yourself in a teaching situation on the job, which you will no doubt enjoy. Don't be surprised if you get to learn a few things as well.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You'd love to make a big splash with your new project. But you'd be wiser to introduce it to your colleagues in a more restrained way and let it speak for itself.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You're a practical person who also has a sense of adventure. You have a capacity for leadership that others often tap in to.

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"I propose some amendments."

# WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT CATARACT SURGERY

If you have a cataract it means the natural lens shopping or drive a car. in your eye is cloudy. In a cataract operation your surgeon will remove the cloudy lens and put longer than others because their poorer sight an artificial clear lens in its place. Your lens sits behind the coloured part of your eye (the iris) and helps you to see things in focus.

your eye through the hole in the centre (the advised that their cataract had to be ripe (very

pupil) and passes through the lens to the back of the eyeball (the retina). The light is then changed into nerve signals that travel to your brain. Your brain tells you what the image is.

If the lens is cloudy, the image on the back of the eye will be blurred. It's rather like very good. Now, with safer, quicker operations, cloudy. Commonly cataracts begin as clouding are better. around the edges of the lens.

a halo effect around bright lights, or when the because there is another eye problem that needs sun is low in the sky. If you drive you might find treating and the cataract is in the way. Examples oncoming headlights more difficult to cope with of other eye problems are diabetic retinopathy than before. Cataracts can also affect the middle and macular degeneration. They are problems of the lens, which makes your vision foggy. As with the blood vessels in the eye. If you have the cataract grows: your sight becomes blurry; cataracts in both eyes, its normal to do them you may have double vision; you may find it one eye at a time, usually a couple of months or hard to tell the difference between some colours, more apart. This is because the treated eye can especially shades of blue; you may see halo effects be sore and needs to settle down for a while. around lights, especially at night.

aged over 65 have cataracts in one or both eyes. Getting older and exposure to bright sunlight are the main reasons people get cataracts. Having diabetes, smoking and drinking too much alcohol may also increase your risk of cataracts.

and stop your poor sight interfering with your life. Not everyone with a cataract needs an operation. see well enough to read, work, play a sport, go minutes.

Some people manage with their cataract for does not affect them much. For example, a person who loves bird-watching may decide they need treatment before a person whose main hobby When you look at something, light comes into is listening to music. In the past, people were

> bad) before it was worth having an operation.

This is because cataract surgery was a big operation that took a long time to recover from, and the artificial lenses used then were not

looking through a dirty windscreen or frosted cataracts are generally removed earlier, before glass. Different parts of the lens can become they cause serious problems. And modern lenses

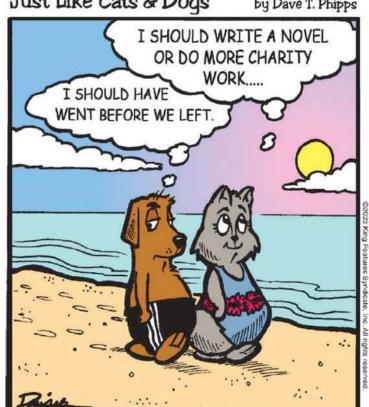
Sometimes a cataract should be removed even if You may notice that you get a lot of glare or it does not cause problems with your sight. This is

A cataract operation usually lasts about 10 Cataracts are common. About a third of people minutes to 20 minutes. You should be able to go home the same day. You may know someone who has stayed overnight after their cataract operation. People usually only stay in hospital if they have problems after their operation, if they have other eye diseases (glaucoma, for example) A cataract operation can: help you see better or other medical problems that doctors need to check.

For most people it's as safe to be at home as Doctors usually suggest the operation when your it is to stay in hospital, and most people prefer cataract interferes with your daily life rather than to be in familiar surroundings. At hospitals that when your eyesight reaches a particular score on are very experienced in doing cataract surgery, a sight test. Your cataract may mean you cant you may be in and out of the hospital within 90

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps





### Herbs that help nursing moms

Herbs such as blessed thistle (cnicus benedictus), dandelion leaf (Taraxacum officinale), fennel (foeniculum vulgare), and fenugreek (trigonella foenum-graecum) have long been known as

beneficial for new mothers. They can encourage good digestion, increase breast milk production, help relieve constipation, lessen uterine bleeding and soothe nervous feelings. They can be cooked and eaten, brewed as a tea or made into tinctures. \*Consult your physician before taking herbs. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.motherearthliving.com

# MOST POPULAR COLLEGE

1. Ohio State

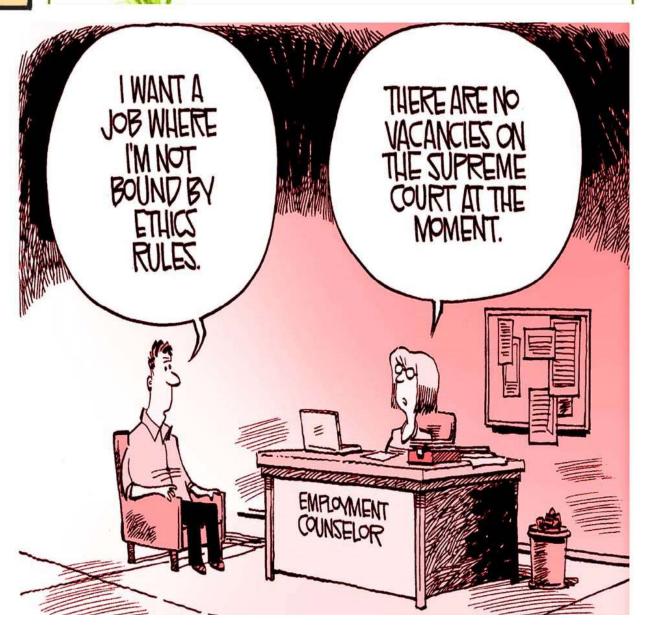
FOOTBALL

teams

- 2. Notre Dame
  - 3. Texas
- 4. Penn State
- 5. Michigan
  - 6. Florida
- 7. Oregon
- 8. Alabama
- 9. Wisconsin 10. USC



Source: Altimore Collins & Company



#### Amber Waves



















The Spats

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by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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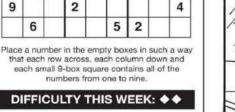
#### **HOCUS-FOCUS**



HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.





Tie is different. 3. Picture is m
 shorter. 6. Chair back is lower.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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10. Komodo Dragon.

Rowling.; 5. The study of cells.; 6. Ponderosa.; 7. Kentucky.; 8. Poland.; 9. Scarab.; I. Tennis elbow.; 2. Lusitania.; 3. "I hope."; 4. The "Harry Potter" series by J.K.

Trivia Test Answerst

# King Crossword

#### **ACROSS**

- Actor Baldwin
- Hindu hero
- ISP alternative
- 12 Without help
- 13 Burden
- 14 Jima
- 15 Woody's son 16 A/C measures
- 17 Moving vehicle
- 18 High point
- 19 Belief
- 20 Fury
- "There's no — team!"
- 23 Mil. morale booster
- "Bottoms up!"
- 28 Perfect place 32 Martial arts
- mercenary 33 "Rubber
- Capital" 34 Cancel out
- 36 Heirs
- 37 Workout unit 38 Scratch (out)
- 39 AAA jobs
- 42 Scull tool
- 44 Bigfoot's cousin
- 48 Mimic

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- 49 Initial chip
- 50 Cupid's alias
- 51 CSA soldier
- 52 Rhone city
- 53 Baseball's Tommie

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51	T	T		52	T	T	T		53	T	T	$\vdash$
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- 54 Switch settings 55 Madame
- Bovary
- 56 Valentine flower

#### DOWN

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- tales
- 3 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 4 Ginger snaps vessels
- 5 Small song-
- birds

- ers
- 8 Ninny 9 Prima donna
- 10 Booty
- 11 One and only 39 Tropical tuber
- 20 Athlete's first season
- 22 Hopping mad 24 Pancake
- order 25 Blitzer's chan- 46 Low digits
- nel
- 26 Hasten 27 Chang's brother
- © 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

- 6 Picnic invad- 29 Expert 30 Charged bit
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    - 40 Frank 41 Entangle-

from a person

- ments
- 43 Teensy bit
- 45 Thus
- 47 "Got it"
- 49 Hearty quaff

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANATOMY: What is a common name for lat-

2. GEOGRAPHY: What was the country of Portugal known as in Roman times?

3. MOVIES: What are the final words spoken in the movie "The Shawshank Redemption"?

4. LITERATURE: Which novel series includes a fictional place called Godric's Hollow, England?

5. SCIENCE: What is cytology?

6. TELEVISION: What is the name of the ranch in the 1960s western show "Bonanza":

7. U.S. STATES: Which state has the longest cave system?

8. FOOD & DRINK: In which country were bagels invented?

9. HISTORY: What kind of beetle was revered by the ancient Egyptians?

10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest lizard on Earth?

**MORE READERS:** 

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#### Answer Weekly SUDOKU

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Solution time: 21 mins. STOWERS

King Crossword —

# DECIMATION OF VULNERABLE NATIONS INEVITABLE IF GLOBAL WARMING CONTINUES

#### By Ronald Sanders

The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and Massey College in the University of Toronto. The views expressed are entirely his own.

former U.S. John Kerry, Secretary of State and current U.S. Special Envoy on Climate Change matters, told the world's Ambassadors at a meeting in Washington, on May 10, that "there is no way" of keeping

the rise in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius unless CO2 emissions are drastically reduced.

Over the last 2 years, Kerry has traversed the globe as U.S. President Joe Biden's point man in a massive push to stop tipping the world over the edge of a Climate Change disaster.

The statement he made to Ambassadors accredited to the U.S. government was not news, but it was sobering to hear it so explicitly told by an influential figure in global climate negotiations.

It was especially so for Ambassadors of 36 small states and 48 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, which account for less than 2 percent and 0.55 percent, respectively of CO2 emissions, but which would be devasted if the target of 1.5 degrees Celsius is exceeded.

Speaking for small island states, in response to the serious observation by Kerry, I emphasised that at 2 degrees Celsius, many countries would be severely eroded, and any greater warming would drown many islands in the Caribbean and the Pacific. I also pointed out that, even if all these countries reduced their already low CO2 emissions, it would have little or no effect on the rate or intensity of global warming.

Kerry was well aware of this situation. He offered ideas on aims that must be pursued in Dubai in December when representatives of the world's governments gather at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties, more commonly referred to as COP28. Among the goals, he listed was a greater effort by the 20 nations that emit 76 percent of warming gases into the atmosphere.

Acknowledging that 10 of these nations are developed countries, he said that many of them, such as the U.S., Germany, and the U.K., are implementing strategies to significantly reduce their emissions. But there are 10 other nations with large

> economies, like China, Russia, Brazil, and India, which are not reducing emissions fast enough to achieve the target of 45 percent reduction in global emissions by 2030. On the current trajectory, in 2030, the world will reach 3 degrees Celsius above pre-

industrial levels. That is a mere 7 years

There is no question that both China and India have recently announced longterm emissions reduction strategies. But China's share of global emissions was nearly 31% in 2020, and it has set 2060 to reach carbon neutrality. However, that might be too late for many small island states as explained earlier. A similar situation exists with India whose government has pledged to reach netzero emissions by 2070.

While the commitments by these two countries are welcome news, they should understand why developing countries, which are devastatingly affected by CO2 emissions would like to see faster reductions.

Their survival depends on it; this is not a matter of ideological alliances or North-South differences. Russia, too, has to assume a bigger role in cutting emissions. Hopefully, the current war with Ukraine will not influence this wider global concern.

The current strong position by the present Biden administration, on vigorously tackling Climate Change, was not shared by the previous administration of Donald Trump, who has now declared himself as the Republican Party's candidate for the U.S. Presidency in 2024.

Therefore, there is understandable concern that, if Trump wins the Presidential elections, not only would he revert to dismissing Climate Change as a myth, but he might also resume his position of withdrawing from the COP, and halting the current U.S. thrust to reduce its own emissions and to secure funding for global climate mitigation and adaptation.



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**Executive Editor VERNON PICKERING** Executive Manager Delseita Carnev-Liburd

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John Kerry expressed confidence that the Biden administration has won too many allies for the cause of fighting Climate Change, among big U.S. corporations with a global reach, for it to be reversed. Talking at Harvard University on the same day that he addressed Ambassadors, Kerry said, "given the decisions made by Ford Motor Co., General Motors — by big corporations Google, Apple, Sales Force, FedEx — these companies are signed up, they're on board". And he added, "I don't think any one president can possibly come in now, from whatever wing of whatever party — there's no way we're going backward. The global economy has made this decision and it's more powerful than any politician."

Victim states of Climate Change have to hope that he's right in his assessment.

The reversal in the U.S. position would trigger a similar reversal by other industrialised nations in their competition for larger shares of the global market for their goods.

All this would have frightening consequences given the importance of maintaining the target of global warming at no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Looking to COP28 in 7 months' time, Kerry named 4 priorities for governments: mapping the road ahead in a genuine agreement; deciding on adaptation and mitigation measures to be taken by all; fulfilling pledges to deliver the financing, including identifying the sources of financing; and dealing with the call by victim states for compensation for loss and damage.

The U.S. government also has obstacles to overcome in its own legislature. The U.S. Congress has as many climate change doubters as it has advocates, and the fossil fuel lobbies are hard at work to resist the diminution of the coal and oil industries - something about which Kerry is realistic.

He explains that "no one wants the economies of the world to crash, which is what could happen if you began to drive the price of oil and gas up too much and drive the supply down to too little".

In all this, victim countries of Climate Change have to advance their own interests by strongly joining the advocacy to the 20 worst CO2 emitters to recognize that they will pay the highest price for the industrialization of others - severe upheaval in their lives and livelihoods, if not extinction.

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

#### L&D Logic Holdings Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2012987

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant o Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 29th April, 2023. The liquidator is Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Dated: 29 April, 2023.

(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

#### ASHLAND CONSULTING LIMITED

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) Company No. 2029092

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant section 204, subsection 1 (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is Voluntary Liquidation. The Voluntary Liquidation commenced on 11th May 2023. The Liquidator is Monique Peters of Travers Thorp Alberga, 2nd Floor Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.

Dated 11th May 2023 (Sgd) Monique Peters

Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act. 2004

#### Water Street International Master Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1925711

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 13th day of April, 2023. The liquidator is Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 14th day of April, 2023. (Sgd.) Philippa V. O'Sullivan [01/3] Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BV1 Business Companies Act. 2004

### Water Street International,

Inc. (In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No. 38088 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 13th day of April, 2023. The liquidator is Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola,

British Virgin Islands. Dated: 14th day of April, 2023. (Sgd.) Philippa V. O'Sullivan

Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. CHEREZMAN BUSINESS & LAW OFFICE

CORPORATION

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1594755 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant Section 204, subsection (b) the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on May 11th, 2023. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British

Virgin Islands. Dated: May 12th, 2023 (Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean Voluntary Liquidator

#### Centurion Way Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1572131

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004. that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May 2023.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sad. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

#### **Drayton Road Limited**

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1572118

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004. that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

#### **Digbeth Properties Limited**

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1398894

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

#### International Road Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1572125

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May, 2023. Dated this 12th day of May, 2023

Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson Voluntary Liquidator [01/9]

#### 1 Ferris Row Limited

Company Number 1572138

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator [01/10]

#### **Eversley Road Limited**

Company Number 1572130 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies

with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

#### Station Road Limited

Company Number 1572134 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May, 2023. Dated this 12th day of May, 2023

Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson Voluntary Liquidator

[01/12]

#### London Road Nottingham Limited

Company Number 1410850 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator

[01/13]

#### **Sutton Road Limited**

Company Number 1572128

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson Voluntary Liquidator [01/14]

#### Seven Stiles Limited

Company Number 1572127

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004. that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May,

Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson Voluntary Liquidator [01/15]

#### CAPITAL TODAY INVESTMENT XVIII LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1493716

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 12th day of May, 2023. Dated this 12th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson Voluntary Liquidator [01/16]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the **BVI Business Company Act.** 

#### Joyoung Holdings Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2087433

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 12th May 2023. The liquidator is Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 12 May 2023. (Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan

Voluntary Liquidator [01/17]

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

Oscart Technology Ltd.

The Liquidator is:-

Wayne S. Francis

of c/o Sertus Chambers, P.O. Box 905,

Quastisky Building,

Road Town, Tortola VG 1110, British Virgin Islands

101/181

NOTICE

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

#### (NO. 16 OF 2004) Meeker Manny Technology Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has

been dissolved and struck off from the Register The Liquidator is:-

Wayne S. Francis of c/o Sertus Chambers,

P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building. Road Town, Tortola VG 1110,

British Virgin Islands [01/19]

> NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

(NO. 16 OF 2004) **GSR United Fortune** 

### **Holdings Ltd**

(In Voluntary Liquidation) NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register

The Liquidator is:-Wayne S. Francis of c/o Sertus Chambers, P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building, Road Town, Tortola VG 1110, British Virgin Islands [01/20]

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004) Jenn Wood Capital Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 12th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register

The Liquidator is:-

Wayne Francis of Nerine Chambers, Road Town,

Tortola, British Virgin Islands

*CONTINUE TO PAGE 33* 

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### Rastus Capital Ltd

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 12th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register

The Liquidator is:-

#### Wayne Francis

of Nerine Chambers, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

[01/22]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### Kaukuli Holdings Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of May, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register

The Liquidator is:-

#### Wayne S. Francis

of c/o Sertus Chambers, P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building,

Road Town, Tortola VG 1110,

British Virgin Islands

[01/23]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### FVR Digital Tech Co., Ltd

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 10th day of May 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidator is:-Wavne S. Francis of Sertus Chambers. P.O. Box 905. Quastisky Building, Road Town, Tortola VG 1110, British Virgin Islands [01/24]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### **Dongjiang Holding** Company Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of May 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidator is:-

#### Wayne S. Francis

of c/o Sertus Chambers, P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building, Road Town, Tortola VG 1110, British Virgin Islands

[01/25]

NOTICE

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### Wanheng ZC Holding Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 12th day of May 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidator is:-

#### Wayne S. Francis

of c/o Sertus Chambers,

P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building,

Road Town, Tortola VG 1110, British Virgin Islands

[01/26]

#### Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act. 2004 Savoy Digital SPC Ltd

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No: 2066550

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced day of May, 2023. The liquidator is Philippa V O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin

Dated: 15th day of May, 2023 (Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan Liquidator

#### Final Notice of Dissolution under The OK Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2036480

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 12 May 2023.

Dated: 12 May 2023.

(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan

Voluntary Liquidator

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act: 2004

#### With Its Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2036278

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 12 May 2023.

Dated: 12 May 2023.

(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan Voluntary Liquidator

[01/29]

### Saturn Global Investment

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number 1980490

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, Subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from the 15th day of May,

Dated this 15th day of May, 2023 Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson

Voluntary Liquidator [01/30]

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary Liquidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004.

#### **Coastal Drive Property** Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 617737

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 19th day of April 2023. The Liquidator is Ray A. George, of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated this 15th day of May 2023

Ray A. George Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary Liquidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Company Act, 2004.

#### Eliora Partners Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1863443

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 18th day of April 2023. The Liquidator is Ray A. George, of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated this 15th day of May 2023

Ray A. George Voluntary Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary uidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004.

#### CLYDE HILL INVESTORS LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1053672

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 12th day of March 2023. The Liquidator is Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Ray A. George

Voluntary Liquidator

Dated this 15th day of May 2023.

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary Liquidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004.

#### Cameron Int Corp.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2098886

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 10th day of May 2023. The Liquidator is RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated this 15th day of May 2023

Ray George

Voluntary Liquidator [01/34]

Notice of Appointment of a Voluntary Liquidator under Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004. Blue Ice International Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1715430

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 3rd day of May 2023. The Liquidator is Ray A George, of Jennings Apartment, Apt. No. 2, Manchester, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 15th day of May 2023.

Ray A. George Voluntary Liquidator

[01/35]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004)

#### TYRFING INVEST & FINANCE LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 4th day of May 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidators is:-Wayne Francis

Nerine Chambers,

Quastisky Building

P.O. Box 905

Road Town, Tortola,

British Virgin Islands

VG 1110

[01/36]

#### Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act Lombard Way Corp.

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) Company No. 380827

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 204, subsection 1 (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in Voluntary Liquidation. The Voluntary Liquidation commenced on 11th May 2023. The Liquidator is

Myron Walwyn of Travers Thorp Alberga, 2nd Floor Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.

Dated 11th May 2023 (Sgd) Myron Walwyn

Voluntary Liquidator

[01/37]

To: The Licensing Magistrate
And

The Officer in Charge of Police

We, FRANKLIN WALTERS/ JOYCELYN LEONARD dba WINNIE'S STEAK HOUSE-now residing at VALLEY, VIRGIN GORDA in the Territory of the Virgin Islands do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply to the Licensing Magistrate at the Special Sitting of the Magistrate's Court to be held at Road Town, Tortola, on the 1st day of June, 2023 for RESTAURANT Licence to sell intoxicating liquor at my premises situated at THE VILLAGE ROSE, in the territory of the Virgin Islands and registered Parcel Number 531 of Block 4839B of the VIRGIN GORDA SOUTH, Registration Section in the Land Registry of the Virgin Island

Dated this 28th day of April, 2023. Signed Franklin Walters [01]

"NEW"

FORM "A"

To: The Licensing Magistrate
And

The Officer in Charge of Police MICHEL CONSEILLANT dba TIDOUDOU-now residing at MAIN STREET, TORTOLA in the Territory of the Virgin Islands do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply to the Licensing Magistrate at the Special Sitting of the Magistrate's Court to be held at Road Town, Tortola, on the 1st day of June, 2023 for RESTAURANT & BAR Licence to sell intoxicating liquor at my premises situated at 12 SCATLIFFE, ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA, BVI, in the territory of the Virgin Islands and registered Parcel Number 5 of Block 2837E of the ROAD TOWN, Registration

Section in the Land Registry of the Virgin Island Dated this 17th day of April, 2023. Signed Michel Conseillant [00]

Notice of Appointment of a uidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act

#### APPROACH GROUP TRADING LTD.

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) Company No. 1908237

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 204, subsection 1 (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in Voluntary Liquidation. The Voluntary Liquidation commenced on 15th May 2023. The Liquidator is Myron Walwyn of Travers Thorp Alberga, 2nd Floor Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.

Dated 15th May 2023 (Sgd) Myron Walwyn Voluntary Liquidator

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS
BVIHPB 2023/0083

In the Estate VANIA DA CUNHA FONTANA late of Rua Doutor Manoel Maria Tourinho 167 Pacaembu, Sao Paulo SP Brazil, deceased

#### ADVERTISEMENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by MARIA APPARECIDA CUNHA FONTANA of Rua Angelina Maffei Vita, no 280, apt. 9, CEP 01455-070, São Paulo SP, Brazil for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the surviving mother of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 16th day of August, 2022.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 4th day of May 2023

FILED by KENDALL Law, Attorneys at law for the Administrator whose address for service is c/o KENDALL Law 2nd Floor Abbott Building, Waterfront Drive, Road Town Virgin Islands VG 1110

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### EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

(PROBATE)

Probate: BVIHPB2023/0082

IN THE ESTATE OF HARISIA EUGENIE FAHIE of Tortola British Virgin, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that EUGENIE CHRISTOPHER of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, mother of the deceased aforesaid, who died on the 13th day of July, 2021 intends to apply to the High Court of Justice in the Probate Division for a Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the Estate of the said HARISIA EUGENIE FAHIE deceased.

ANY PERSON or persons who has or have any objections to the Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the said EUGENIE CHRISTOPHER of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of the publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court of Justice in the British Virgin Islands the proper documents setting out the proper objections.

Dated this 9th day of May, 2023

Harbour Chambers BVI Legal Practitioners for the Applicant

[01]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. Pennytree Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No. 1957855

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on May 16th, 2023. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: May 16th, 2023 (Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean Voluntary Liquidator [01/39]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

#### Médanos International Investments Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 1423881

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 16th May 2023.

The liquidator is Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 16th May 2023 (Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan Liquidator

[01/40]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act

#### Lucky Wiser Holdings Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number: 2038981

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204(1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 16 May 2023. The Joint Liquidators are Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 16 May 2023

Rachael Pape

For and on behalf of Anton

Goldstein and Rachael Pape

As Joint Liquidators

[01/41]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
BVIHPB 2023/0084

IN THE ESTATE OF MARGARET LEIGH-BURNS late of Whelk Point, Tortola, Territory f the Virgin Islands, deceased

#### ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by RUSSELL JOHN BURNS of Whelk Point, Tortola, Territory of the Virgin Islands (hereinafter referred to as "the Applicant" or "the Intended Administrator"), for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased ("the Deceased") who died on the 1st day of December, 2022, at Home, Whelks Point, Tortola, Territory of the Virgin Islands, domiciled in the Territory of the Virgin Islands. The Applicant is the surviving spouse and widower of the Deceased.

ANY PERSON having an objection to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicants shall file an objection with the Registrar of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2023.

Filed by: VIGILATE LAW, Legal Practitioners for the Applicant/Intended Administrator, whose address for service is at: C/o the offices of VIGILATE LAW, 185 Main Street, Lagoon Plaza, Ground Floor, Road Town,Tortola, Virgin Islands (British), Tel: (284) 340-8484.

1011

#### EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (PROBATE)

Probate: BVIHPB2023/0088

IN THE ESTATE OF GERDA FRETT of Tortola British Virgin Islands, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that NATOYA DENISE FRETT of Tortola British Virgin Islands, and NATASHA DIANE FRETT of Tortola British Virgin Islands, children of the deceased aforesaid, who died on the 31st day of May, 2022 intend to apply to the High Court of Justice in the Probate Division for a Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the Estate of the said GERDA FRETT, deceased.

ANY PERSON or persons who has or have any objections to the Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the said NATOYA DENISE FRETT of Tortola British Virgin Islands, and NATASHA DIANE FRETT of Tortola British Virgin Islands, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of the publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court of Justice in the British Virgin Islands the proper documents setting out the proper objections.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2023

Harbour Chambers BVI Legal Practitioners for the Applicants

[02]

# The Fastest Way to communicate with us islandsunnewsp@gmail.com

#### THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE VIRGIN ISLAND

In the Estate of ZHANG KULLANDER, TIANTIAN CHENG (張成)

late of Apt A, 25/F, Azura, 2A Seymour Road, Central, Hong Kong, deceased

FORM P16: ADVERTISEMENT (RESEALING)

Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the resealing of the grant of letter of administration of the estate of ZHANG KULLANDER, TIANTIAN CHENG (張成)

late of Apt A, 25/F, Azura, 2A Seymour Road, Central, Hong Kong, deceased granted by the High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Court of First Instance on 27 March 2023.

Dated: 17 May 2023

Filed by: Conyers Dill & Pearman
Attorneys-at-Law for the Administrators
Whose address for service is:
Commerce House,
Wickhams Cay 1, PO Box 3140, Road Town,
Tortola, VG1110,
British Virgin Islands

[01]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act

#### Pioneer Connection Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company Number: 2038962

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204(1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 16 May 2023. The Joint Liquidators are Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Rachael Pape

For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape As Joint Liquidators

[01/42]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act

#### SEDUNO HOLDING INC.

(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

Company No. 1979298 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 204, subsection 1 (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004

Act, 2004
that the Company is in Voluntary
Liquidation. The Voluntary
Liquidation commenced on
17th May 2023. The Liquidator
is Myron Walwyn of Travers
Thorp Alberga, 2nd Floor
Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216,
Road Town, Tortola, British
Virgin Islands, VG1110.

Dated 17th May 2023

(Sgd) Myron Walwyn Voluntary Liquidator

[01/43]

"NEW"

#### FORM "A"

To: The Licensing Magistrate
And

The Officer in Charge of Police

I, ERNEST JACOB dba BLESSINGS TO ALL -now residing at JOSIAH BAY, TORTOLA in the Territory of the Virgin Islands do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply to the Licensing Magistrate at the Special Sitting of the Magistrate's Court to be held at Road Town, Tortola, on the 1st day of June, 2023 for RESTAURANT & BAR Licence to sell intoxicating liquor at my premises situated at JOSIAH'S BAY, TORTOLA, BVI, in the territory of the Virgin Islands and registered Parcel Number 188 of Block 3240A of the LONG LOOK, Registration Section in the Land Registry of the Virgin Island

Dated this 5th day of May, 2023.

Signed Ernest Jacob

[01]

"NEW"

FORM "A"

To: The Licensing Magistrate
And

The Officer in Charge of Police

COOPER JAVAN dba Ke TRADING & CONSULTING-LTD/ HOUSE DECK residing at ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA in the Territory of the Virgin Islands do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply to the Licensing Magistrate at the Special Sitting of the Magistrate's Court to be held at Road Town, Tortola, on the 1st day of June, 2023 for RETAIL Licence to sell intoxicating liquor at my premises situated at ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA, BVI, in the territory of the Virgin Islands and registered Parcel Number 132/1 of Block 2938B of the ROAD TOWN, Registration Section in the Land Registry of the Virgin Island

Dated this 10th day of May,

Signed Javan Cooper [01]



ands and Survey Department PO. Box 142 Hoad Town, TORTOLA VG1110

BY EMAIL AND VIRGIN ISLANDS GAZETTE BVILR/PRE/10/2022

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION BY PRESCRIPTION

SECTION 135 OF THE REGISTERED LAND ACT CAP 229 OF THE 1991 EDITION OF THE REVISED LAWS OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

REGISTRATION SECTION BLOCK PARCEL
West End 2034B 319

The Chief Registrar of Lands hereby gives NOTICE that PATRICK CONWAY of West End, Tortola, Virgin Islands through is legal practitioners Harney Westwood & Riegels, Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, Road Town, Tortola, Virgin Islands has applied to be registered as the proprietor by Prescription for 1,675 sq.ft. of Parcel 319, Block 2034B, West End Registration Section measuring 6 acres. Affidavit was file in support of his application.

Parcel 319 is registered to:

 A.D. Watts & Company Limited, PO Box 71, Road Town, Tortola, BVI

Anyone who has just cause to object to Patrick Conway being registered as the proprietor for the aforementioned 1,675 sq.ft. of Parcel 319, Block 2034B, West End Registration Section should file their objection at the Lands Unit on or before Monday 19th June 2023

The filed application may be inspected at the Lands Unit upon request. Copies will be provided by the Applicants' Legal Practitioners to any objectors.

Dated this 11th day of May 2023

Natalie Stevens-George Administrative Officer (for) Chief Registrar of Lands

To: Mishka Jacobs

Harneys
PO Box 71
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Legal Practitioner for Patrick Conway, Applicant
mishka.jacobs@harneys.com

A.D. Watts & Company Limited
PO Box 71
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Michael Riegels, Director, RiegelsWazee@outlook.com
Benedicta Samuels,
Director, samuelsrichardson@samuelsrichardson.com
[01]

efi: Lands Unit: (284) 466-2017, Survey Unit: (384) 468-4371 | Email: Lands Unit: landregistration@gov/rjj.

### VI Observes International Museum Day

Premier and Minister of Finance Dr. the Honourable Natalio D. Wheatley said that museums have played a critical role in preserving our culture and history in the Virgin Islands through documentation and record-keeping.

Premier Wheatley's comments come as the Department of Culture commemorates this year's International Museum Day being observed today under the theme, "Museums, Sustainability and Well-being".

Honourable Wheatley, who is the Minister responsible for the portfolio of Culture said, "I am especially pleased that this year's theme is in direct alignment with our National Sustainable Development Plan that encourages the safeguarding of our distinct cultural identity."

He added, "The well-being of our society depends on protecting and promoting our cultural resources. Museums contribute in this way by expanding our knowledge, and increasing appreciation about who we are as a people."

Director of Culture Dr. Katherine Smith encouraged the public to visit the museums and exhibitions which showcase the themes reflected in these sustainable development goals.

Dr. Smith said, "Jenesis Studios' Herbal and Fruit Garden connects goals 3 and 13 in the way that it showcases the crops, herbs and fruits that were used for medicinal purposes, foods and beverages by Virgin Islanders from the post emancipation period to the mid twentieth century. This is profound because the shift to a sedentary lifestyle and western diet during the 1970s has been directly correlated to the rise in certain diseases."

She further explained that while the Virgin Islands' biodiversity and terrestrial ecosystems are showcased at the J.R.O'Neal Botanic Garden on Tortola and the Anegada Iguana Headstart Facility on Anegada, there will be a temporary exhibition on offer at the Old Government House Museum.

This year's theme underscores the transformative potential of museums as institutions that are tasked with ensuring sustainable futures for the societies they operate in. According to the International Council of Museums, each year since 2022, a set of Goals from the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations is focused on.

This year, the goals highlighted are:

Goal 3 Global Health and Wellbeing: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, in particular concerning mental health and social isolation. Goal 13 Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, adopting low-carbon practices in the Global North and mitigation strategies in the Global South.

Goal 15 Life on Land: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, amplifying the voices of indigenous leaders and raising awareness on the loss of biodiversity.

Dr. Smith explained, "Trefle Exhibition showcases the connection between recycling and upcycling natural and cultural materials and the evolution of fashion. This exhibition will be on display at the Elmore Stoutt High School, transitioning into a traveling exhibition for other

schools across the Virgin Islands."

As a part of the activities, an educational video will be aired which will touch on these themes, and will include the theme of climate change and the Virgin Islands' museums.

International Museum Day activities will be observed from May 18 to the 26 and the public is encouraged to visit the following museums and institutions between Monday and Friday from May 19 to May 26:

Jenesis Studios and Herbal Fruit Garden

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Anegada Iguana Headstart Facility 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Old Government House Museum Garden and Temporary Exhibition 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

J.R O'Neal Botanic Garden 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

For further information, contact the department at 468-4374.

The Department of Culture's vision is a Virgin Islands where all Virgin Islanders feel a sense of belonging and pride, and actively participate in cultural activities that reflect their heritage and ultimately enrich their lives.





The Department of Culture Commemorates

# International IUSEUM DAY

MUSEUMS, SUSTAINABILITY AND WELL-BEING







The public is invited to visit the following between Monday and Friday from

Friday, 19th - 26th May, 2023

Jenesis Studios and Herbal Fruit Garden - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Anegada Iguana Headstart Facility - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Old Government House Museum Garden and Temporary Exhibition - 8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m

J.R O'Neal Botanic Gardens - 8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m.

Trèfle Exhibition at Elmore Stoutt High School (for Students) - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



# HLSCC HOSTS FIRST OF ITS KIND BLUE ECONOMY WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Thursday, 18 May – A total of 8 young women have been introduced to the Blue Economy following the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC) Centre for Applied Marine Studies (CAMS) first-of-its-kind three-day Blue Economy workshop.

Vice President of Academic Affairs at HLSCC, Dr. Arlene Smith-Thompson explained that the workshop was part of 'LEAP' – a pilot programme funded by Zonta Club of Tortola aimed at promoting marine-related STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) activities for highschool girls.

The Vice President further noted that increasing support of K-12 schools is a part of the College's 2022-2025 Strategic Implementation Plan and the partnership with Zonta Club helps HLSCC to build relationships that benefit both the institution and the local community.

Director of Marine and Maritime Studies at HLSCC, Ms. Susan Zaluski said, "There is growing awareness about the importance of the Blue Economy in the BVI and we are excited about helping to build future leaders who can be both conservation and careerminded in the way they view the BVI's ocean resources."

She further explained that the introductory workshop modules included a blend of environmental education and maritime skills topics such as: An Introduction to the BVI Blue Economy; Mangrove Ecology and Coastal Restoration; VHF SRC Radio Communication; and Basic Chart Reading and Navigation. HLSCC Marine and Maritime Studies Instructor, Ms. Jen Kneale said, "It is great to see young women considering future careers in the marine and maritime industries and for HLSCC to be able to provide introductory training courses for them. As a result of the programme, these young women were able to achieve a VHF SRC radio certificate from the College." Ms. Kneale, who taught the VHF SRC Radio and Basic Chart-Reading and Navigation modules for the pilot programme, further commented that there are more and more women working in the marine industry in a variety of roles both shoreside and on the water. Jian Jeffers, who works part-time for HLSCC as the CAMS Mangrove Nursery Manager remarked that it was inspiring to see the young women eager to learn more about the field of marine science. She further commented that she was grateful that the LEAP programme gave females - including herself - the opportunity to develop new skills. Jeffers, who taught the mangrove ecosystems and coastal resilience module, also completed the VHF SRC radio training alongside the programme's young participants. She said, "Although LEAP targeted high school students, we wanted to reinforce lifelong learning as an approach to professional and personal growth for women." A total of 8 young women participated in the LEAP

programme. This included 7 High school students (grades 9-12) from 4 high schools (Ciboney Centre of Excellence, Claudia Creque Educational Centre, Elmore Stoutt High School and Seventh Day Adventist School) representing three islands (Anegada, Tortola and Virgin Gorda). One collegeaged young woman participated as a mentor/teaching assistant.

For more information on the Centre for Applied Marine Studies and the "LEAP into the Blue Economy programme", please contact Susan Zaluski via telephone at (284) 541-3055 or via email at szaluski@hlscc.edu.vg.



# Myocarditis Outbreak - United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

On 5 April 2023, the National IHR Focal Point for the United Kingdom informed WHO of an increase in severe myocarditis in neonates and infants associated with enterovirus infection in Wales compared with 2021. Between June 2022 and March 2023, 15 neonates and young infants presented with a picture consistent with neonatal sepsis in Wales and Southwest England. Enterovirus Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing of nine cases confirmed the presence of either coxsackie B3 or coxsackie B4. As of 20 April 2023, three patients were hospitalized, four patients were being managed as outpatients and two had died.

Although enterovirus infections are common in neonates and young infants, the reported increase in myocarditis with severe outcomes in neonates and infants associated with enterovirus infection is unusual.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION

On 5 April 2023, the National IHR Focal Point for the United Kingdom informed WHO of an increase in severe myocarditis in neonates and infants associated with enterovirus infection in Wales compared with 2021. Between June 2022 and March 2023, a total of 15 neonates and young infants, aged up to 28 days, presented with a picture consistent with neonatal sepsis from two regions of the United Kingdom: South Wales (10 cases) and Southwest England (five cases). Eight cases were treated in intensive care, and one case died before transfer to tertiary care. Further details on the remaining six cases which were identified through retrospective and prospective case finding are pending. In all cases alive at presentation, myocarditis was a presenting feature. The peak incidence of cases was in November 2022 (five cases), with sporadic cases in other months.

Enterovirus PCR testing of the nine cases that presented at the hospital (with either throat swab, nose swab, nasopharyngeal aspirate or cerebrospinal fluid samples) confirmed the presence of an enterovirus, subtyping to either coxsackie B3 or coxsackie B4. Critical care support including intubation, ventilation and circulatory support was given to the eight patients who went to intensive care.

As of 20 April 2023, three patients were hospitalized, four patients were being managed as outpatients and two had died.

Reported increase in severe myocarditis in neonates and infants associated with enterovirus infection is unusual. In the same hospital (covering the South Wales region) over the previous six years, only one other similar case has been identified.

# EPIDEMIOLOGY OF MYOCARDITIS (ACUTE INFECTIVE)

Myocarditis is an inflammation of the heart muscle (myocardium). The most common cause of myocarditis is a viral infection (e.g., Enteroviruses), but it can also be caused by a bacterial infection, a reaction to a drug, or an autoimmune disease. Myocarditis symptoms include acute and persistent chest pain, shortness of breath, and heart palpitations (racing or pounding heartbeat). Enteroviruses can cause a number of infectious illnesses and are responsible for annual epidemics. These are usually mild but have been found to affect neonates differently, and often more severely, than older children. There are multiple transmission routes, particularly in the neonatal period. The reported incident represents an increase in both the number and severity of enterovirus (coxsackieviruses) infections in infants under the age of one month. There is

increased morbidity and mortality associated with the current incident.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE

On 28 February 2023, pediatricians in the South Wales region were alerted about the recent cases, with advice to consider myocarditis in infants and neonates presenting with shock.

A nationwide Incident Management Team (IMT) was set up and is reviewing the evidence from all English Regions and United Kingdom countries to determine the next steps for the response. Epidemiological investigations are ongoing.

Following the IMT meeting on 28 April 2023, the United Kingdom authorities have raised awareness of the enterovirus cluster among health-care practitioners and to test for enteroviruses in suspected cases. Hospital laboratories have been reminded to submit positive enterovirus samples to the national reference laboratory for viral characterization and typing. Clinicians and hospital laboratories have been asked to report suspected cases of neonatal enterovirus myocarditis identified since 1 June 2022 to the United Kingdom Health Security Agency.

Public Health Wales published a written statement on 3 May 2023 regarding this event to further notify the public and healthcare practitioners.

#### WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

According to the United Kingdom Health Security Agency, a review of past data from the previous six years from the same tertiary care centre in Wales has identified only one similar case in 2021 (which may or may not be linked to the current incident) and no further cases which match this clinical picture.

Preliminary investigations from the national United Kingdom IMT have not identified any other clusters in any other region beyond those in South Wales and Southwest England in the United Kingdom in the past 12 months. Based on the limited information available at this point, WHO assesses the public health risk as low. However, asymptomatic carriage and shedding of infectious virus is a feature of enterovirus infection and there was little evidence in this case series of maternal infection prior to or during delivery. As enterovirus infection is often not among the notifiable diseases in Member States, additional cases of severe, neonatal enterovirus infections might have gone undiagnosed and/or unreported elsewhere.

#### WHO ADVICE

Non-polio enteroviruses are common and distributed worldwide. Although infections often are asymptomatic, others present with mild to moderate respiratory tract infections. Symptoms include fever, runny nose and body weakness. These viruses are also associated with occasional outbreaks in which an unusually high proportion of patients develop clinical disease, sometimes with serious and fatal consequences in this instance myocarditis. Clinicians seeing infants and neonates presenting with shock may consider a diagnosis of myocarditis and consider testing for enteroviruses.

No specific antiviral therapy is available, and treatment focuses on prevention of complications. As there is no vaccine for this virus, control measures during outbreaks are focused on classical hygiene measures including frequent handwashing and disinfection of soiled clothing and surfaces.

### CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN REALTORS HUB OFFERING EVEN MORE BENEFITS TO REALTORS AND HOMEOWNERS

Bank will offer Realtor of the Year Awards in several territories.



Bridgetown Barbados, 18 May 2023. Homeowners and those aspiring to homeownership around the region stand to benefit even more with the expansion of CIBC FirstCaribbean's Realtors Hub.

The online portal which was launched two years ago allows clients who have pre-qualified for a mortgage to log on to the portal (cibfcib.com/realters-hub) and be connected to leading realtors who will assist them in selecting their dream home or ideal plot of land.

The bank recently announced special incentives for realtors including the Realtor of the Year Award which aims to recognise and honour realtors who have served the bank's clients. The award also acknowledges the achievement of the bank's realtor partners, their commitment to creating extraordinary client experiences and their outstanding work in communities in which the bank operates.

"Every day, we ask how we can make life even easier and more convenient for our clients, which has led us to the creation of the digital space "The Realtors Hub". Many of you are already partners in this initiative and have secured your space

in the CIBC FirstCaribbean Realtors Hub. Now, we want to not only thank you for assisting our clients, but we want to highlight your efforts through an innovative initiative – The CIBC FirstCaribbean Realtor of the Year Award," said Deepa Boucaud, Executive Director, Retail and Business Banking

Mrs. Boucaud said realtors who are members of the CIBC FirstCaribbean's Realtors Hub, and who hold an active real estate license are eligible for the award. They must demonstrate professionalism through good business conduct, community service and a sound and active relationship with CIBC FirstCaribbean.

The Realtor of the Year will be selected by CIBC FirstCaribbean in association with its clients, and the local community who will be given an opportunity to vote.

The award was announced during special client events held recently in The Cayman Islands, Jamaica and Barbados. A similar launch event will be held in the Bahamas shortly.



# Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda secures license to auction Alfa Nero

Washington, DC, 18 May... Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States of America, Sir Ronald Sanders, announced today that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has been successful in its discussions with the Government of the United States of America, concerning its application for a license to proceed with the unfettered sale of the Super Yacht, Alfa Nero.

On 18th May, the US Department of the Treasury issued license, No. RUSSIA-EO14024-2023-1060959-1, to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, authorizing persons licensed by the US Treasury to "participate in the Government of Antigua and Barbuda auction of the vessel M/Y Alfa Nero". It also authorizes "transactions that include but are not limited to, bidding on the purchase of the vessel; paying deposits; and providing financing, insurance, or funding in connection with the purchase".

This authorization was announced in the National Assembly of Antigua and Barbuda today by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, opening up the way for the Port Authority of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to proceed with a sale of the Alfa Nero by auction, to any persons who are not on a sanctioned list and who have applied for, and received, a license from the US Treasury to engage in financial transactions related to the vessel. It is understood that several interested bidders have already received individual licenses from the US Treasury Department.

Ambassador Sanders said that, while the license permits the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to proceed with the auction and to sell the vessel, other matters, such as the formal delisting of the Alfa Nero, from the US Treasury's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) list, are still being pursued.

The Ambassador remarked that "this entire process broke new ground; there were no rule books or patterns to follow. In this sense, much has been achieved by a small state".





Full-time-Positions Available: Doctors, Nurses, Eyecare, Dentistry, Lab Technicians, Pharmacists. Sonographers, Medical Assistants Maintenance Personnel.

Contact: B&F Medical Complex P.O Box 412 Road Town, Tortola VG1110

Email: bfmedicaloffice@ vahoo.com and or bfmedical@ hotmail.com

Telephone: 284-494-2196

VI Real Estate & Development is seeking a full-time Real Estate Consultant. Interested applicants can submit their CV/ Resume with cover letter at P.O Box 386 Road Town, Tortola, BVI or call 284-494-1300.-[s02]

ACE Property Development Ltd. is seeking a Pool Technician. Minimum experience. Serious applicants please call 343-6406. BVIslanders or Belongers preferred.[s02]



Manager of CP4 band is seeking the following Musicians

Keyboardist

Bass

Guitarist

Lead Guitarist

Drummer

Female and Male vocalist

All musicians must be able to play all genres of music. For more

Information please contact Mr. Fahie at 499-1542 [s02]

**Deccon International Inc.is** seeking a Mason. Minimum 5-years-experience. **BVIslanders** or Belongers preferred .- Serious applicants please call 343-6406.

[s02]

# PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidato under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

#### Apricot Biopharma Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2012037

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 9 May 2023. The Liquidators is Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated 18 May 2023 (Sgd.) Harry J. Thompson

Voluntary Liquidator(s)

# PUBLIC NOTICES

#### BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT **TAAM Holdings Limited**

("the Company")

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 16th day of May, 2023; under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation. The Liquidator is:-

Wayne Francis

of Nerine Chambers,

P.O. Box 905,

Quastisky Building,

Road Town, Tortola,

British Virgin Islands

[01/44]

#### Blue Sea Global Limited

Company No. 1634767 (in voluntary liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the above named company, is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 9th of May, 2023 and Paula Ajarie of Lot 24 de Castro Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110 is the voluntary liquidator.

Dated: 9th May ,2023 (SGD.) Paula Ajarie

Paula Ajarie Voluntary Liquidator

NOTICE

**BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES** 

ACT

BEAIZ HOLDINGS LIMITED

("the Company") (In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 17th May, 2023; under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck from the Register.

The Liquidator is:-

Marsha Corum

Nerine Chambers,

P.O Box 905,

Road Town

Tortola,

British Virgin Islands

#### EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE VIRGIN ISLANDS

(PROBATE)

BVIHPB2023/0091

#### IN THE ESTATE OF ELIHU RUDOLPH RHYMER late of TORTOLA BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by PATRICIA RHYMER TODMAN (hereinafter referred to as "the Applicant") of Tortola British Virgin Islands for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above-named deceased who died on the 4th day of February 2023 at Road Town, Tortola domiciled in Tortola British Virgin Islands without revoking a Will bearing the date 9 June 2016 wherein the Applicant is named executrix thereof.

ANY PERSON having an objection to the Grant of Probate to the applicant shall file an objection with the Registrar of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated this 18th day of May 2023

Filed by: Harbour Chambers BVI 12 Chalwell Street Road Town

Tortola

Virgin Islands

Legal Practitioners for the Applicant

[02]

Final Notice of Dissolution under

Companies Act. 2004 GAUCIN INVESTMENTS

### LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 537802

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 208, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 18th day of May,

Dated: 18th day of May, 2023. (Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan

Voluntary Liquidator

[01/47]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. Apricot Bioetern Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation) Company No. 2074017

NOTICE is hereby given Section pursuant to 204 subsection (1)(b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 9 May 2023. The Liquidators is Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated 18 May 2023 (Sgd.) Harry J. Thompson Voluntary Liquidator(s)



#### The Island Sun --- Simply the Best for your Advertising Needs

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# STAFF WANTED

Alphonso Enterprise Limited for :A Cashier and a Secretary with no less than 6 years experience

Alphonso Fiberglass Limited for: a Fiberglass Technician who is able to fiberglass Boats and Vehicles, with no less than 5 years experience.

Alphonso Gas Station Limited for: a Cashier/Pump Attendant

Contact Mr. Martin "Tony" Alphonso at Alphonso Enterprise Ltd via telephone 284-394-8746/284-340-2443 and /or email alphonso\_ent@ email.com [s01]

Lawrence-Wheatley Construction is looking for

- 1 Mason
- 1 Carpenter
- 1 Forman

Please contact Lawrence Wheatley @ (284) 499-4177 [s01]

Stone Masons. Please call 543-0647 or 540-8373 for more information. [01]

L&L Trucking and Heavy Equipment Rental, Gorda is seeking Heavy equipment Operator (full time) with 10 years or more experience who is able to operate more than one equipment and holds a valid drivers license and be able to work unsupervised. Interested applicants can send their resumes to lisa alexander2002@yahoo.com or call 284-340-1312. [s01]

Urmon-Callwood
Construction-Services
has a need for workers in
the capacity of Masons,
Carpenters, Skilled
Labourers, Sheet Rock
Persons,[s01]

Elroy's Pleasure Tours is seeking a driver, tour guide and mechanic to join their team with a minimum of 3 years driving experience with a valid driver's license. Please send your resume to eptoursvi@gmail.com.

[s01]

Maintenance-Worker required. Call 4942587 or email erinrentals@ gmail.com. BVIslanders or belongers preferred. [s01] WBV Management Ltd. is seeking the following full and part time positions: Accountant/Book-Keeper, Bartender,

Kitchen Manager,

Cook,

Kitchen Assistant,

Server,

Assistant General Manager, Guest-Services/Reservations Coordinator,

Housekeeper,

Housekeeping-Supervisor, Handyman/Gardner. Applicants must be reliable, personable and a team player willing to work on Jost Van Dyke with flexible hours/days. BVIslanders and Belongers preferred. Interested persons should send resume and work history via email to: hrwbvmgt@gmail.co-ortelephone: 1-631-682-6800 [s01]

Part Time Receptionist required. Call 4430919 or email erinrentals.gmail. com. Experience required. BVIslanders or belongers preferred.

5ELEMENTZ HOLISTIC SPA needs a Full Time Spa Therapist with relevant spa certification and 3 years work experience. Please send resume via whatsapp: or call 284-345-7079. [s01]

ROAD TOWN FAST FERRY requires Full Time Two (2) Boat Crews & Two (2) Boat Captains. Please call 284-499-2405 for further information. [s01]

Karel's Artistry Salon in Virgin Gorda is in constant need of part-time and full-time Barbers, Nail Technicians, Hairdressers. Please call 545-4166 to apply. [s01] Structural Engineer
CSE (BVI) Ltd are seeking a
Civil/Structural Engineer. The
successful candidate must have
an M.Eng or M.Sc in Civil or
Structural Engineering and
must have a minimum of 5
years' office-based design
experience, with some relevant
site experience.

The Candidate must be proficient in the use of Revit, AutoCad, MasterSeries and Tekla Tedds software.

The applicant must be able to work on his own design projects, and in site conditions checking for compliance of the contractor's work to the structural drawings.

Please send CV by email to:email: careers@csecaribbean. com or Telephone: Cell # 346 7392. [s02]

P&N Construction Company Ltd requires the following Full and Part Time positions to be filled: Mason, Carpenter, Laborer, Steel Worker, Painter, Tiler, Heavy Equipment Operator. Must have a minimum of 5 years experience. Contact 541-2831. BVIslander or Belonger preferred. [s02]

ROAD TOWN FAST FERRY needs ONE (1) full time TICKET AGENT. Telephone (284) 499-2405. [s02]

2 J's Welding & Fabrication is looking for full time Apprentice Welder with experience in aluminum. BVIslander or Belongers preferred.-Interested-applicants please send resume to 2JsWelding@gmail.com or Telephone: (284) 543-5686 [s02]

De La Santa Bakery and Restaurant Plus is seeking an experience person to fill the position of a full time kitchen helper to assist with the preparation of the Jerk Chicken and Jerk Pork and any other related duties assigned to the Jerk Stand. Please call 343-0603 or 4994308 for further information.

Senior Structural Engineer CSE (BVI) Ltd are seeking an IStructE Chartered or near Chartered Senior Civil/Structural Engineer. The successful candidate must have an B.Eng, M.Eng or M.SC in Civil or Structural Engineering and a minimum of 10 years' office-based design experience, including at least 5 years in a senior engineer position, with the ability to mentor junior staff.

The Candidate must be proficient in the use of Tekla Tedds, Tekla Structural Designer, CADS RC, AutoCad, Autodesk Revit, MasterSeries and CSC Fastrak software. Please send CV by email to:-email: careers@csecaribbean. com or Telephone: Cell # 346 7392.

D & C MARINE is hiring full time SECRETARY and AIRCONDITION TECHNICIAN. Please contact us by calling 1-284 342-9923 [s02]

# REAL ESTATE

PROPERTY FOR SALE:
Registration Section: East
Central, Block: 2840B Parcel
175 Lot Size: 0.51 acres
Selling Price: US \$75,000.
Interested Belongers
please contact Akeem
Wheatley from Emerald
Properties BVI at 284-5416861 or email: akeem@
emeraldpropertiesbvi.com
o r - I n f o @
emeraldpropertiesbvi.com
[s03]

# SLAND DEPAR\*MENT STORE

#### DUFF'S BOTTOM

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