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No. 3229 * 61st Year * Tortola * British Virgin Islands * Saturday * 9 December 2023

OPPOSITION LEADER BAFFLED BY THE ABSENCE...p2 | HON. PENN DISPLEASED OVER THE LACK OF...p3

AFTER 6 YEARS PROSPECT REEF IS STILL A CASTLE IN THE AIR

In his 2024 Budget Address, Premier and Minister of Finance Dr. the Hon. Natalio Wheatley made a promise regarding the long-debated Prospect Reef development, stating: "The redevelopment of Prospect Reef is our top priority. We are diligently working to establish the new board by the end of this year

and to issue the Request for Proposals for a new resort facility at Prospect Reef in early 2024."

Less than two months ago, the government's management of the Prospect Reef redevelopment project faced scrutiny, with Sixth District Representative Hon. Myron Walwyn criticizing

the slow progress and the deteriorating condition of the site. This critique in the House of Assembly sparked a debate about the future of the once-promising tourist attraction, especially in light of impressive developments in neighboring Caribbean nations.

Hon. Walwyn highlighted

the stark contrast between the current state of Prospect Reef and the thriving investments seen in countries like Jamaica, which have experienced-substantial growth, particularly in the hotel industry. He remarked, "When I inquired about new developments, I received no satisfactory answers.

Yet, when you observe other Caribbean nations, you witness remarkable progress... I recently read that Jamaica plans to add another 8,000 hotel rooms by 2024, expanding over the next two to five years."

Drawing attention to the neglected state of Prospect Reef, which once boasted a thriving hotel development and various tourist attractions, Hon. Walwyn questioned the government's commitment to rejuvenating the site. He voiced his concerns, stating: "We have nothing left. When you drive through Prospect Reef, it's now hidden beneath overgrown bushes. What are we doing? This is not about politics; it's about the well-being of our citizens. Many are struggling in the BVI, and I'm not sure if we fully grasp the gravity of the situation."

In response, Premier Wheatley acknowledged

Continued on page 2



Enis Adams Primary School Choir performing at Christmas in the City

(photo Dean "The Sportsmand" Greenaway)



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AFTER 6 YEARS PROSPECT REEF IS STILL...*from page 1*

the historical challenges associated with the Prospect Reef redevelopment project but firmly pledged to see it through. He added: "Our economy is not all doom and gloom. Our primary economic pillars are performing well. As for the new investments, some of them are already in progress, and we will complete these projects." He also noted that some of these projects could have been completed by previous administrations but were not.

Hon. Wheatley revealed that a new board had recently been appointed to oversee the project and was currently in the evaluation phase. Once fully constituted, the board's initial task would be to issue a request for proposals (RFP) to breathe new life into the Prospect Reef development, **u n d e r s c o r i n g - t h e** government's determination to revitalize this crucial location.

Back in September, Premier Wheatley had expressed a strong commitment to

revitalizing Prospect Reef, emphasizing its importance as a top priority. He eagerly anticipated the issuance of a Request for Proposal in 2023.

During the September sitting of the House of Assembly (HoA), The questions about the Prospect Reef Resort were posed by Leader of the Opposition Hon. Ronnie Skelton. In his response, Premier Wheatley had informed the House of Assembly, "Madam Speaker, I believe it was

just last Thursday that [the] time for persons to apply to the Board expired." He also mentioned that Government entities were currently in the evaluation phase concerning the constitution of the Prospect Reef Board.

The Premier had further disclosed that once the Board was fully constituted, its primary focus would be able to release the Request for Proposal for the revitalization of Prospect Reef. "So it's a priority for me, and I would like to see a Request for Proposal issued before the end of the year, Madam Speaker," the Premier had added.

Back in May, Hon. Wheatley had provided an update on the Prospect Reef property and first mentioned that the government intended to invite bidders

to submit their proposals for the development of the resort. He had stated, "Very soon, I'll be engaging the Prospect Reef Board on issuing a Request for Proposal for development. We see Prospect Reef as a hotel that can offer convention center services to our business community and assist in hosting meetings, conferences, and so on. So Prospect Reef is a very big part of what we are intending to do, and the public should see a Request for Proposal very soon." The BVI Premier had further explained that once the bidding process commenced, the Prospect Reef Board would be tasked with considering the submitted development proposals to select the right bidder for the development arrangements

OPPOSITION LEADER BAFFLED BY THE ABSENCE OF THE PREMIER AT SFC

Leader of the Opposition Hon. Ronnie Skelton has questioned Premier and Minister of Finance, Dr. the Hon. Natalio Wheatley's decision to leave the Territory recently to attend a climate change summit while the House of Assembly's (HOA) Standing Finance Committee's (SFC) budget process was ongoing.

At that time, Premier Wheatley was in attendance at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, which had concluded on 6 December. During this period, members of the HOA were attending Standing Finance Committee meetings to deliberate on the 2024 budget alongside senior government officials.

In his criticism of the matter, Hon. Skelton questioned the effectiveness of the SFC budget process in the Premier's absence, given that the presence of the Premier, who also held the position of Finance Minister, was crucial for addressing key spending inquiries related to the Territory.

The Opposition Leader stated: "Presenting a budget to the parliament without being here



Hon. Ronnie Skelton

to address the challenging questions that members may have renders the process essentially pointless. There are critical needs within various government departments, ministries, and statutory corporations that are necessary for the betterment of the country, and these could not be addressed adequately without the Premier's presence."

Hon. Skelton had further emphasized that critical issues such as crime, policing, infrastructure development, roads, water supply, and other essential matters required funding allocation by the Minister of Finance, and the Premier's absence could have hindered progress in these areas.

While acknowledging Acting

Premier Kye Rymer's efforts in facilitating the budget process in Premier Wheatley's absence, the Leader of the Opposition indicated that the Premier's non-attendance was less than ideal.

Hon. Skelton declared: "We currently have the Premier, Minister of Finance, and the Deputy Premier all away from the country, and I understand that the Minister of Health will also be departing soon. Consequently, it will be necessary to appoint another junior minister to assume responsibilities within the country. This was not the optimal course of action."

"We should not underestimate the importance of these procedures in facilitating the growth and organization of our society. With the Minister of Finance absent from this critical process, we were heading in the wrong direction," he added.

Furthermore, Skelton pointed out that it was the members of the Opposition who were ensuring that the SFC met its quorum, a crucial requirement for the validity of the meeting's proceedings at that time.

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HON. PENN DISPLEASED OVER THE LACK OF COOPERATION OF THE WHEATLEY ADMINISTRATION



Hon. Marlon Penn

Opposition-member and-Eighth-District Representative-Hon. Marlon Penn has voiced his displeasure over what he described as a lack of cooperation exhibited by

the Dr. Natalio Wheatley administration; when it comes to addressing issues in Districts represented by Opposition legislators. In his complaint, Hon. Penn emphasized the importance of all 13 elected members working together effectively to serve their constituents.

During a recent interview with 284 Media, the Opposition member explained: "I don't have any personal issues with any of my fellow elected leaders. We all get along and are on friendly terms. However, I have noticed that we tend to politicize many essential

tasks for the benefit of our country. It appears that when action is required, especially in districts represented by non-government officials, we tend to marginalize the representative and seek alternative routes to accomplish our objectives."

Hon. Penn noted that this problem seems to be increasingly prevalent in the current VIP administration, and he said that he intends to raise this specific concern in the House of Assembly.

He continued: "I believe this approach is counterproductive and it is a trend that is becoming

more prominent within this administration. I plan to address this issue in the House of Assembly. We need to put a stop to it. The election is over, and the people have elected 13 members to represent their interests. It is crucial that all of us collaborate for the greater good. Regardless of whether I am part of the government or the Opposition, my position deserves respect."

Recently the Opposition and Government seemed to be at loggerheads over various representational matters. The Opposition has been posing numerous questions to the government

and accusing them of sidestepping direct answers that both the Opposition and residents require. The Opposition even staged a walkout of the House of Assembly in protest of what they said was the Government's biased approach to legislative matters.

At the time, members of the Opposition complained that during a House of Assembly the government delayed the question-and-answer segment which is relief on by the Opposition for answers to various Territorial matters of interest.

THIS IS THE SEASON OF CHEAPER ELECTRICITY BILLS

In a bid to bring some holiday cheer to residents, the Government is once again offering the gift of cheaper electricity bills for Christmas, following a successful initiative last year. This seems a gimmick copied from the British and Italian governments.

Effective December 1st, the Government unveiled a special program aimed at providing relief from the mounting fuel surcharge costs during the festive season. Demonstrating its ongoing commitment to alleviating financial pressures on residents, the government will shoulder 50% of the fuel surcharge expenses associated with electricity bills from the British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation (BVI EC).

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, the Government said that it recognizes the importance of supporting residents during a period of heightened energy consumption. By absorbing the fuel surcharge, the government said it seeks to ease the financial strain on individuals and families within the community.

This fuel surcharge relief



Hon Kye Rymer

initiative directly benefits residential-electricity customers, - with - the government covering half of the fuel surcharge portion of their bills. This move is aimed at providing residents with additional financial flexibility throughout December 2023.

To finance this initiative, the Government has allocated a dedicated fund, part of its ongoing efforts to support citizens and mitigate the financial impact of increased fuel consumption.

Eligible residential customers will automatically have 50% of the fuel surcharge portion of their BVI EC bills paid by the Government, without the need for separate applications or

additional documentation.

Residents are encouraged to seize this opportunity and enjoy a more affordable holiday season, courtesy of the Government's initiative.

Back in September 2022, Minister for Communications and Works Hon. Kye Rymer announced that the Government was sympathetic to the plight of rising fuel costs in the Territory and was going to subsidize the electricity bills of residents for three months.

Hon. Rymer, while illustrating that the Government is very aware of what is being reflected on electricity bills across the BVI explained that the Government allocated some funds to help lower residential electricity bills by half.

As such the Government subsidized 50 percent of the fuel oil surcharge on residential electricity bills for the months of October and November 2022. In an extra show of generosity last year December (2022) the government subsidized 100% of the fuel oil surcharge for residential electricity bills.

Customer Service Care Centre Launches Live Chat

The Government's Customer Service Care Centre has launched its live-chat feature, in an effort to ensure customers can easily access the Government's services.

The feature allows individuals to contact the centre through messaging, and receive instant support and is accessible through <https://bvips.org>.

Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome, MBE said the office continues to forge forward with an aggressive Public Service Transformation Programme and strategic focus has been placed on ensuring the Government's service delivery modes are modern and efficient.

Mrs. DaBreo-Lettsome expressed gratitude for the work done on the project thus far, as well as anticipation for what this means for the continued development of the Government's customer service programme.

"We recognise the need to continuously bring our services closer to the public, ensuring that it is as hassle-free as possible to get information, or do business with the Government," the Permanent Secretary said. She added, "The introduction of this feature is a major and welcomed step forward in this regard."

Over the past few weeks, Customer Service Specialists within the Customer Service Care Centre have been participating in training sessions in preparation for the launch of the live-chat feature, with a focus on ensuring customer service standards are maintained.

Director of Customer Service, Ms. Kedimone Rubaine said, "We are unwavering in our dedication to building the Government's customer service to a world-class level. A major component of this is creating mediums, and equally efficient options for customers to reach us, and experience the same exceptional customer service consistently."

The new live-chat feature allows individuals to contact the centre via messaging on a mobile device, tablet or computer by clicking the chat icon that is on the bottom right of the bvips.org homepage.

Persons can contact the Customer Service Care Centre at 284-468-3701.

Constitutional Review Commission's Report Completed



Premier and Minister of Finance Honourable Dr. Natalio Wheatley has said the completion of the report by the Constitutional Review Commission signals constitutional progress and the evolution of the Virgin Islands' democratic system.

The completed report of the full review of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order 2007 was officially handed over to His Excellency the Governor, Mr. John Rankin CMG and Premier Wheatley on Monday, November 27.

Premier Wheatley stated, "I am grateful to the Chairman and members of the Constitutional Review Commission, who worked diligently to complete and present a report that is representative of extensive public and private consultation, thoughtful and engaging deliberation, and meaningful research and consideration."

This report the Premier added, is helpful not only in addressing several recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, but also the Territory's aspirations for advancement including the checks and balances towards the development of an even greater democracy that our

people deserve.

The Premier said, "This report will be received by Cabinet, then subsequently laid on the table of the House of Assembly (HoA) where it will be the subject of parliamentary debate. The document will then be available for public review which will inform the next steps, including the establishment of a negotiating team."

In July 2020, the House of Assembly (HoA) passed Resolution No. 15 of 2020 to approve an 11-member Commission following Cabinet's approval of the establishment of a Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) for the purpose of conducting a full review of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order 2007.

Following the receipt of the Commission of Inquiry (COI) Report and the approval of the Framework for the Implementation of the recommendations, Cabinet on 29th June, 2022 rescinded the previous decision and appointment of 11 members and approved the increase in membership from 11 to the following 16 members:

Mrs. Lisa Penn-Lettsome, Chairman; Ms. Janice Stoutt,

Deputy Chairman; Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Michael Dennis Byron; Ms. Maya Barry; Mrs. Tanya Cassie-Parker; Mr. Sendrick Chinnery; Ms. Susan V. Demers; Ms. Noni Georges; Dr. Steve Lennard; Mr. Coy Levons; Mrs. Bernadine Louis; Dr. Benedicta P. T. Samuels; Mr. Ronnie W. Skelton; Mr. Rajah A. Smith; Rev. Dr. Melvin A Turnbull; Dr. Charles Wheatley, OBE.

Commissioners Ms. Janice Stoutt, Mr. Ronnie W. Skelton, Mr. Coy Levons and Mrs. Bernadine Louis resigned prior to the Commission submitting its report.

The Commission has conducted its work from

July 2022, through various fora and media. The methods included generating feedback via the website www.yourconstitution.vg, town-hall style public meetings, private consultative meetings, radio and television interviews, infomercials, secondary schools outreach, a consultative meeting with Virgin Islanders residing in the United States Virgin Islands, and a signature educational and consultative event which was live-streamed and made available for re-viewing.

The report is intended to be comprehensive, which is reflected in the general terms of reference that were approved, as follows:

i. to re-evaluate the vision of the people of the Virgin Islands, as expressed in the preamble to the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007, and to amend accordingly, if necessary;

ii. to evaluate the current Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007, and determine whether it is in strategic fit to facilitate the people of the

Virgin Islands in achieving the revised vision in (i) above;

iii. to identify any gaps in relation to (ii) above;

iv. to make recommendations for constitutional reform,

v. to review the next step towards self-determination for the Territory of the Virgin Islands; and

vi. to consider how best, the law enforcement and justice agencies can sit within the constitutional framework.

The handover of the CRC's report signals the completion of another action in the COI Recommendations.

The Government of the Virgin Islands remains resolute in the promotion of the overall development of the Territory through the continued pursuit of constitutional goals inclusive of our commitment to democratic ideals, good government, and sustainable transformation.





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Seven Schools To Compete In Chess Tournament

The Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports' Inter-Secondary School Chess Tournament will see seven schools in the Territory vying for the title of Chess Champion from December 12 to 13.

The seven registered secondary schools in the tournament include Bregado Flax Educational Centre, Claudia Creque Educational Centre, Ciboney Centre for Excellence, Cedar International

School, Elmore Stoutt High School, St. George's Secondary School and the Virgin Islands School of Technical Studies.

Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Honourable Sharie B. de Castro said the

sport of chess contributes to the critical thinking element of a S.T.E.A.M.-approach education.

The Minister said, "At Innovation Week 2023, we saw how the chess portion was a huge success, consistent from the previous year. This year, the young men, specifically the seniors from the Virgin Islands School of Technical Studies (VISTS), did not want to leave the chess station. From this, we anticipate the excitement of the Inter-Secondary School Tournament to be riveting and change the way, not only in reimagining education but also by adding to the landscape and culture of sports in the Territory."

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Dr. Marcia Potter said that the Ministry supports the initiative of chess in schools and added, "We have embraced chess as an invaluable tool in our S.T.E.A.M. approach as all children can benefit from learning the game."

Acting Chief Education Officer Mrs. Orlandette Crabbe stated that studies have shown that playing chess build necessary skills needed in the 21st Century.

Mrs. Crabbe said, "Chess fits well with S.T.E.A.M. education because it addresses high order thinking skills, analysing, evaluating and creating." She added, "Chess allows children to focus, plan, think ahead, and even visualise moves in a structured and logical manner, as they must learn to adapt quickly after receiving an unexpected move, making them flexible and creative."

Day one of the tournament will begin on Tuesday, December 12, and will see the participants registering. An opening ceremony will be held at 9:00 a.m. followed by the commencement of the initial rounds.

Day two and the final day of the competition will be Wednesday, December 13. Participants will check in at 8:45 a.m. followed by announcements and then the rounds. The afternoon session will have the semi-finals and finals followed by the closing ceremony and awards presentation. The tournament will be at the Multi-Purpose Sports Complex, and the public is invited to support the schools and their players.



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 (ALTERNATING WEEKS)
- (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 SUNDAYS)
- (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)

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Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports

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12th - 13th December 9:00 a.m. daily
Multi-Purpose Sports Complex

For more information contact your school's chess club. **Spectators welcome!**

Hon. Wheatley Saddened At Passing Of Former PAHO Director



Minister for Health and Social Development Honourable Vincent O. Wheatley has extended condolences on behalf of the Government of the Virgin Islands on the passing of Dr. Carissa Etienne, Director Emeritus and former Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

Honourable Wheatley said Dr. Etienne who was also former Assistant Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) has left an indelible mark in the area of global and regional public health, and that her career is worthy of emulation.

Honourable Wheatley said, “Dr. Etienne was a public health expert who made a significant impact in the public health landscape regionally and internationally. We here in the VI also benefitted tremendously from her vision, leadership and drive to advance public health in the Americas.”

Dr. Etienne’s accomplishments included the advancement of Universal Health as particularly to provide equity for vulnerable, rural, and underserved populations.

She also worked towards improving governance and stewardship in health, financing for health, and intersectoral action to address the social determinants of health. Dr. Etienne led the organisation’s drive towards eliminating diseases like HIV, malaria, trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, Chagas, and others, and mobilised programmes to prevent and control non-communicable diseases.

“We have lost a visionary, pioneer, and stalwart in the area of public health. As we reflect on her significant contributions and her life’s work, we will be forever grateful and appreciative for the commitment, love and respect that she had for her Caribbean counterparts. May her Soul Rest in Peace,” Honourable Wheatley said.

According to a press release issued by PAHO, Dr. Etienne died early this morning at her home in Maryland USA. She began her career in her native Dominica as a medical officer at the Princess Margaret Hospital and was later appointed as the Chief Medical Officer of that country. She has also served in other high-level posts in Dominica, including as Director of Primary Health Care Services, Coordinator of the National AIDS Program and Disaster Coordinator for the Ministry of Health.

Dr. Etienne received her medical degree (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery-MBBS) from the University of the West Indies, Jamaica, and her Master of Science Degree (MSc) in Community Health in Developing Countries from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London.

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no later than December 1st, 2023.

Norwegian PR1MA's Inaugural Call to the British Virgin Islands



6 December 2023 – The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) in collaboration with the Tortola Pier Park Ltd, British Virgin Islands Tourist Board (BVITB) and local ship agent

Island Shipping Trading Co. Ltd, commemorated the inaugural arrival of Norwegian's first of five Prima-Class Ships, PR1MA with a plaque exchange ceremony. This event took

place onboard the ship while it was berthed at the Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park, Tortola with Captain Kevin Bellido and Minister of Communication and Works Honourable Kye Rymer.



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[s30]

Cabinet Approves 2024 Public Holidays

Acting in accordance with Section 5 of the Public Holidays Act (Cap 199), as amended, Cabinet has approved the following public holidays for 2024:

Monday, 1st January - New Year's Day

Monday, 4th March - The Anniversary of the Birth of Hamilton Lavity Stoutt

(In lieu of Thursday, 7th March)

Friday, 29th March - Good Friday

Monday, 1st April - Easter Monday

Monday, 20th May - Whit Monday

Friday, 14th June - Sovereign's Birthday

(to be confirmed)

Monday, 1st July - Virgin Islands Day

Monday, 5th August - Emancipation Monday

Tuesday, 6th August - Emancipation Tuesday

Wednesday, 7th August - Emancipation Wednesday

Monday, 21st October - Heroes and Foreparents Day

Monday, 25th November - The Commemoration of the Great March of 1949 and the Restoration of the Legislative Council

Wednesday, 25th December - Christmas Day

Thursday, 26th December - Boxing Day

Anegada Airport Reopens After Brief Closure

The BVI Airports Authority has announced the resumption of operations at the Anegada Airport, following a brief closure.

Managing Director Mr. Kurt Menal said operations resumed at 7:00 a.m. December 6 and extended thanks to the residents of Anegada for their patience and cooperation during the temporary closure of the airport. "We understand the inconvenience it may have caused, and we are committed to providing the best possible service to the community," he said.

Mr. Menal outlined the Authority's ongoing efforts to enhance safety and operational efficiency at all airports operated by the Authority.

"We are actively working on strengthening our emergency response capabilities and as a result we are in the process of acquiring two additional fire tenders, one of which is expected to join our fleet by the end of January 2024," Mr. Menal said, adding, "These additions aim to augment our service and mitigate against potential closures in the future."

The Managing Director expressed his appreciation to the BVI Health Services Authority (BVIHSA) for its collaboration during the closure of the airport, where permission was granted for the operations of medical evacuation flights.

He said, "The commitment of the BVIHSA to ensuring the operation of medical evacuation flights in case of emergencies is a testament to the strong partnerships that exist within our community. The collaboration underscored the importance of a coordinated response to safeguard the well-being of all residents of Anegada."

Meanwhile, Director of Operations, Mr. Kyle Cummings, also extended his appreciation to the Anegada public stating that their understanding and support are invaluable to the Authority as it works to maintain the highest standards of safety and efficiency.

Mr. Cummings emphasised the Authority's commitment to ensuring continuous, safe, and seamless transit through all airports in the Territory. "Our team remains dedicated to not only keeping all airports open at all times but also to providing a safe and reliable air travel experience for our passengers," he said.

The BVI Airports Authority looks forward to serving the Anegada community and the entire Territory with renewed vigor and extends its appreciation to everyone for their cooperation as they strive to uphold their motto of "Safety is our #1 Priority".

**MORE READERS:
THE ISLAND SUN**

Quijano & Associates (BVI) Limited ("QUIJANO BVI") ROLE: Compliance Officer and MLRO

DESCRIPTION:

Quijano & Associates (BVI) Limited ("QUIJANO BVI") is a Class 1 Licensed British Virgin Islands Trust Company offering a comprehensive range of fiduciary and corporate management services. **QUIJANO BVI** is now accepting applications for an experienced professional to join its firm as a **Compliance Officer & MLRO**. Key Responsibilities Include:

- ensuring that the licensee complies with its obligations with respect to the establishment and maintenance of compliance systems and controls;
- identifying, measuring and assessing the compliance risks associated with the licensee's business, including the compliance risks associated with the material changes in, or the development of new, products, types of business or customer relationships;
- keeping the regulatory obligations of the licensee and the compliance systems and controls under review, identifying any deficiencies, making regular assessment reports to the board and senior management and making recommendations for any updates or revisions;
- keeping the compliance manual under regular review and current;
- maintaining a Licensee's registers;
- ensuring that the licensee complies with its reporting obligations to the Commission, including that returns submitted to the Commission are accurate, complete and filed within the relevant time period;
- establishing and maintaining procedures for the monitoring and handling of complaints, and keeping the complaints procedures under review;
- preparing and submitting to the Commission, on behalf of the licensee, an annual compliance report;
- preparing and submitting to the board of directors an annual compliance report;
- ensure annual training, provide advice and guidance to employees on subjects that relate to money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing;
- informing senior management of compliance initiatives, compliance deficiencies, corrective action required and undertaken, new high-risk customers;
 - sanction screening and monitoring;
 - reporting suspected designated persons and sanction breaches to the Governor's Office, FSC and FIA receiving and maintaining records of SARs/STRs;
 - promptly reporting every suspicious customer or transaction related to money laundering, terrorist financing, or proliferation financing relating to the Licensee to the Agency acting as liaison between the Licensee and the Agency;
 - ensuring staff compliance with internal reporting and compliance manual procedures relating to money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing;
 - ensuring staff compliance with the Regulations, Proceeds of Criminal Conduct Act, the Code and any other enactment relating to money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing;
 - inform the Compliance Committee and/or the Board of Directors of suspicious activity reports filed with the FIA and any advice or guidance issued by the FIA; and all other functions as set out in the Regulations and Code.
- Candidate must be bilingual with the ability to speak English and Spanish fluently. This would be a distinct advantage.

Skills Knowledge and Expertise:

- Approved senior officer status
- At least five (5) years in a fiduciary services role and/or industry compliance function;
- Good understanding of regulatory requirements affecting legal and trust company business in the British Virgin Islands and ability to apply this knowledge in practice;
- ICA/ACAMS or equivalent qualification preferred;
- Willing to take the lead in setting the tone for compliance culture;
- Willingness to stand by difficult decisions;
- Excellent IT skills, including Microsoft Outlook, Excel and Word;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills; and
- Good analytical and organisational skills and ability to prioritise work load and meet tight deadlines.

CTO SECRETARY-GENERAL RECEIVES 2023 CMEx LEADERSHIP AWARD

MIAMI (December 5, 2023) – The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) is exceedingly proud to announce that Secretary-General and CEO Dona Regis-Prosper has been honored by the Caribbean Media Exchange (CMEx) with its 2023 Leadership Award.

At the awards luncheon and fundraising event, held on Saturday, December 2, 2023, Regis-Prosper was celebrated for more than two decades of leadership in a broad range of tourism- and hospitality-related positions, including being selected as the first female to lead the CTO, which serves

as the tourism development agency for the Caribbean region.

Over the past nine years, Regis-Prosper has deftly overseen the management of new organizations as well as projects in several islands and territories, elevating their prominence in the Caribbean tourism landscape.

Her career has included roles as Director of Marketing and Product Development at the Saint Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority, which she helped to transform into a more service-oriented organization while developing a customer service

culture at the destination's port facilities; Director of Business Development for Margaritaville Caribbean Group in Jamaica; CEO of the Tortola Pier Park in the British Virgin Islands, where she was responsible for the launch of the new cruise and shopping center facilities; and General Manager of the Antigua Cruise Port, overseeing the launch of the facility.

Joining Regis-Prosper in being honored at the 2023 CMEx Leadership Awards and Fundraiser, held at the Loews Coral Gables Hotel in Miami this past weekend, were



TO ALL OUR ADVERTISERS,
READERS, WELLWISHERS,
AND FRIENDS WE EXTEND

THE ISLAND SUN
BEST WISHES
for a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a **HAPPY 2024**

*May all that is beautiful,
meaningful and brings you joy be yours this
holiday season and throughout the coming year!*


Island Sun

individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the Caribbean tourism, hospitality and communications sectors, including:

Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort in Aruba

Rosa Harris, Director, Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, and Chairman, CTO Board of Directors

Stan Hartling, Owner and CEO, The Hartling Group

Joy Jibrilu, CEO, Nassau Paradise Island Promotion Board

Nicola Madden-Greig, OD, President, Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association

Pat Montague, President/CEO, Pat Montague Marketing & Promotions

Beverly Nicolson-Doty, CEO, Figment Design and former CTO Chairman

Kevin O'Reggio, Strategic Account Director of Global Sales, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Michele Paige, CEO, Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association

Julian Rogers MBE, Founder, MEDIAROGERS GROUP

Reflecting upon the day's events, Regis-Prosper stated: "Today, I was filled with immense pride as I received

the 2023 Caribbean Media Exchange (CMEx) Leadership Award in Miami. I am truly humbled to be recognized among a group of distinguished professionals who are working collaboratively to shape the future of Caribbean communications, tourism and hospitality. This event not only celebrated our achievements but also fostered deeper connections and ignited new conversations as we rally around the Caribbean."

Regis-Prosper's determined commitment to strategic planning, business development, policy formulation and implementation initiatives, and the development and execution of innovative strategies to enhance the competitiveness of Caribbean tourism on a global scale represent the core values of progress and sustainability for which CMEx is known.

CMEx was established to facilitate the exchange of best practices among communicators in the media and members of the public and private sectors, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, academia, community groups, and the youth.

VERNON TO MAKE GUEST APPEARANCES WITH CROATIAN SOPRANO AT TOP TV XMAS SHOWS



BVI internationally acclaimed vocalist Vernon Pickering has surprised television programmers by staging a duet with a very promising Croatian soprano for two appearances on 22 and 23 December at TeleLombardia - Antenna 3 - where the public will see him with soprano Lucija Spevec sing the celebrated *Cantique de Noel (Oh Holy Night)* by great French opera (*Si j'étais roi*) and ballet (*Giselle and Le Corsaire*) composer Adolphe Adam (1803-1856) in its original French version and then presented the next night in the Italian version (*O Santa Notte*) both of which were a great success when his 2018 Christmas album was launched internationally on Youtube and other major internet platforms and in general distribution. He told The Island Sun that he had recently known Lucija Spevec and he was very impressed by her professionalism and voice and in due course their Christmas songs duets were most welcomed by the organizers of the upcoming Christmas Shows staged by Italian television networks who have known Vernon for decades. (Rai national television, Canale Italia, Montecarlo television, etc). Lucija was born in Varazdin in 1999, she fluently speaks five languages and has honed acting skills at the National Theatre; in recent years she has been a finalist at the Capri opera festival, In 2020 she was in Vienna participating at the Students' Concert at the Schlosstheater of Schönbrunn; she has participated in other projects and concerts in Croatia as well as a Christmas Tour with Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra; in 2022 she took a Master Programme in Vocal Performance at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, she also performed

on national televisions and More recently she sang Micaela in Carmen in Varazdin. Lucija has also sang Mozart roles including the *Magic Flute* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Vernon's years in the USA saw him training at the Robert Joffrey Ballet in New York. His talent was further developed under the guidance of Alvin Nikolais and the great choreographer, Balanchine. He made his debut in 1963 at Lincoln Centre, New York, in Claude Debussy's "*Prelude to the afternoon of a Faun*" with the famous ballerina Allegra Kent. Subsequently he refined his singing technique with Evelyn Nankins and developed his baritone voice into a wider ranging voice over a period of two years. He appeared on Broadway in the black version of "*Hello Dolly*" with the legendary Pearl Bailey. He also performed with Sammy Davis Jr. in "*Guys and Dolls*" and "*Hello Bugo*" with Leslie Uggams. Vernon appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show, His artistic interest led him to be successful in television, films and music. Vernon Pickering performed on the Broadway stage and in London (West End) in musicals like "*Show Boat*" at the Adelphi Theatre. Vernon was also in "*Catch My Soul*" (*Othello Rock*). He was part of the Amsterdam cast of the most iconic musical "*Hair*". In Italy he has given concerts at the Lirico Theater and Gerolamo Theater in Milan. His disco music version of *Come Prima (You forever)* was a huge success in the 1970s and he later participated at the Festivalbar finale at the Arena in Verona before a 20,000 audience. He also took part in "*New Year from Asiago*" which was televised by Eurovision.



GLOBAL NEWS BRIEF

STORIES SELECTED BY GIORGIO MIGLIAVACCA

RUSSIA - Russian security forces have raided gay clubs and bars across Moscow, less than 48 hours after the country's top court banned what it called the "global LGBTQ+ movement" as an 'extremist' organisation.

Police searched venues across the Russian capital, including a nightclub, a male sauna and a bar that hosted LGBTQ+ parties, under the pretext of a drug raid, local media reported.

Eyewitnesses told journalists that clubgoers' documents were checked and photographed by the security services. They also said that managers had been able to warn patrons before police arrived.

The ruling, which was made in response to a lawsuit filed by the Justice Ministry, is the latest step in a decades-long crackdown on LGBTQ+ rights under President Vladimir Putin, who has emphasised "traditional family values" during his 24 years in power.

Activists have noted the lawsuit was lodged

against a movement that is not an official entity, and that under its broad and vague definition authorities could crack down on any individuals or groups deemed to be part of it.

Several LGBTQ+ venues have already closed following the decision, including St. Petersburg's gay club Central Station. It wrote on social media Friday that the owner would no longer allow the bar to operate with the law in effect. [Euronews]

USA - U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan has rejected the petition of former president Donald Trump to shelve the electoral case he faces in Washington.

Trump argued that he enjoyed absolute immunity due to his status as president, because the indictment was based on actions he took while in office. In this case, the former president is charged with four felonies related to his attempts to invalidate the legitimate results of the November 2020 elections, which he lost to Joe Biden.

The dismissal of the

petition came as no surprise, but Trump's lawyers can now appeal to the appeals court and, ultimately, to the Supreme Court. That would allow Trump, at the very least, to delay the process so that the trial does not begin in early March, as scheduled. With his dilatory strategy, it may even be delayed until after the November presidential election. If Trump were to win that election, he could maneuver to have the Justice Department drop its indictments. In an extreme case he could even pardon himself.

For the time being, Judge Chutkan has rejected the near-absolute immunity that Trump intended to cling to. In her ruling issued Friday, the name Nixon appears 24 times. The Watergate affair, which led to Richard Nixon's resignation as president in 1974, was followed by a preemptive pardon by his successor in the White House, but the episode serves to show that Trump's predecessors did not share his thesis of absolute immunity.

"The Constitution's text, structure, and history do not support that contention," Chutkan wrote in her ruling. "No court — or any other branch of government

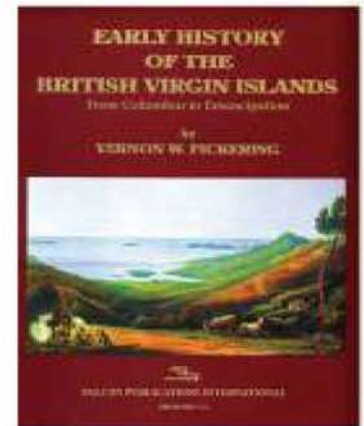
— has ever accepted it. And this court will not so hold. Whatever immunities a sitting President may enjoy, the United States has only one Chief Executive at a time, and that position does not confer a lifelong "get-out-of-jail-free" pass." [El Pais]

BLACK HEROES - On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to stand up and give her bus seat to white passengers, which led to her arrest and eventually inspired several movements that led to the fight for civil rights. Parks was a well-educated woman who had learned about the struggles of African-Americans in a segregated country. She was active in the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), which had an important influence in her decision to defend her rights.

Before Parks, other African Americans started protesting bus segregation through sit-ins in buses. Bayard Rustin, leader in social movements for civil rights, was the first one arrested for protesting by sitting in the first rows of a Louisville bus bound for Nashville. After him, Irene Morgan, Lillie Mae Bradford and Sarah Louise Keys also protested by refusing to stand up.

The same year Rosa Parks was arrested, four Black women were arrested in Montgomery for not giving up their seats. They were 15-year-old Claudette Colvin, 18-year-old Mary Louise Smith, 36-year-old Aurelia Browder and Susie McDonald, who was around her seventies at the time of her arrest. They became the plaintiffs of Browder v. Gayle, the case which led to bus segregation being considered unconstitutional. [El Pais]

CAYMAN ISLANDS - In a recent report by the Cayman Compass, it has



The Best Gift for all occasions

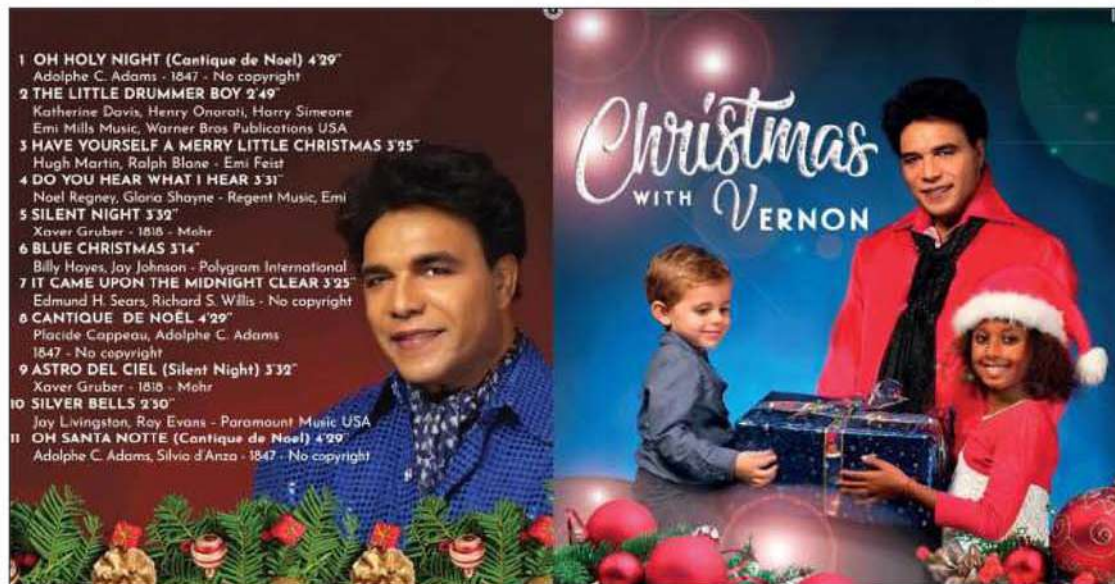
EARLY HISTORY OF THE BVI
BVI's Bestseller *
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 AVAILABLE AT
ISLAND ROOTS AT NANNY CAY OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE MUSEUM SHOP
THE ISLAND SUN, 123 MAIN STREET
 or contact
islandsun@surfbvi.com

been revealed that the Premier of the Cayman Islands holds a position among the elite group of the world's highest-paid heads of state.

Reports are that the salary for the position of the Cayman Premier surpasses that of the United Kingdom's Prime Minister and is comparable to the salary of the President of the United States.

At the core of this revelation is the fixed salary given to the Premier of Cayman, which is \$234,900 (equivalent to US\$282,000).

Reports are that the UK Prime Minister receives a salary slightly exceeding US\$200,000 before taxes. However, the incumbent, Rishi Sunak, faces an effective tax rate of 22 percent, resulting in a reduced take-home income of approximately \$156,000. [CNW]



- 1 OH HOLY NIGHT (Cantique de Noel) 4:29" Adolphe C. Adams - 1847 - No copyright
- 2 THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY 2:49" Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati, Harry Simeone Emi Mills Music, Warner Bros Publications USA
- 3 HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS 3:25" Hugh Martin, Ralph Blane - Emi Feist
- 4 DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR 3:31" Noel Regney, Gloria Shayne - Regent Music, Emi
- 5 SILENT NIGHT 3:32" Xaver Gruber - 1818 - Mohr
- 6 BLUE CHRISTMAS 3:14" Billy Hayes, Jay Johnson - Polygram International
- 7 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR 3:25" Edmund H. Sears, Richard S. Willis - No copyright
- 8 CANTIQUE DE NOËL 4:29" Placide Cappeau, Adolphe C. Adams 1847 - No copyright
- 9 ASTRO DEL CIEL (Silent Night) 3:32" Xaver Gruber - 1818 - Mohr
- 10 SILVER BELLS 2:30" Jay Livingston, Ray Evans - Paramount Music USA
- 11 OH SANTA NOTTE (Cantique de Noel) 4:29" Adolphe C. Adams, Silvio d'Anza - 1847 - No copyright

VERNON'S NEWEST ALBUM AVAILABLE NOW

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 Sunny Side Up



Through the Lens of The Sunny Side



Spectators looked on as nine judges sampled 22 cakes in the Caribbean Insurers Ltd., Christmas Cake from around the world competition on Saturday, during Christmas in the City (Photo Credit Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway)

	<p>PAGE 14</p> <p>Road Town sparkled and shone at the Floatilla of Lights Parade (Continue on page 16)</p>	<p>PAGE 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Ladyburd Talks . Ladyburd Mail Box . Lightbulb Moments . Poetry Corner . Tickle My Funny Bones . Pun Intended 	<p>PAGE 16</p> <p>Road Town sparkled and shone at the Floatilla of Lights Parade (Continue from page 14)</p> <p>PAGE 17</p> <p>Divas On A Dime</p>
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ROAD TOWN SPARKLED AND SHONE AT THE FLOATILLA OF LIGHTS PARADE



The In a mesmerizing display of holiday spirit, the streets of Road Town sparkled and shone as the Floatilla of Lights parade took center stage on the evening of Friday, December 1. The event, which left spectators in awe, featured a captivating procession of vehicles adorned with twinkling lights and festive decorations.

The parade commenced promptly at 7:30 pm from the Hospital seaside parking lot. Its route took participants and onlookers on a magical journey down Waterfront Dr., leading

to the Christmas paved Bobby's marketplace. From there, the spectacle continued to Banco Popular and across Admin Drive, adding an extra touch of enchantment to the Christmas in City activities that were taking place. At the intersection of Admin Dr. and Waterfront Dr., the parade circled back, ensuring that the delightful spectacle could be enjoyed by all.

The procession featured an eclectic mix of vehicles, including

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16





LadyburdTalks...

Dear Readers: Christmas Day at Home: Tips and Ideas to keep a small family Christmas special!

Schedule some Facetime/ Zoom Calls with your Family and Friends

Make sure that you plan some time in advance- you don't want to ring people when they're in the middle of stuffing their turkey! If you have other friends and family with children, use the time to play some games. One of the best ones is shouting out an object that you have in the house, and the first person to return to the screen with that object gets a point.

Get the drinks flowing

Christmas Day doesn't have to be all about good food, make sure you have a great selection of drinks too! (yes, get the kids involved too).... and you could even get them to help mix their own mocktails!

Enjoy the silver lining of cooking for less people

This Christmas treat yourself with things that YOU want to eat. There's no judgement, no rules. Are Baked Beans the only vegetable your children will eat? Great- serve them up to accompany the Turkey. Does everyone prefer ice cream to anything else for dessert? No need for that Christmas Pudding. Get out your family favourites, and RELAX. This year's Christmas Dinner is no different to a Family Sunday Dinner.

Enjoy some family activities together

Make sure that you enjoy your family time with some standard festive family activities;

Watch a Family Christmas movie (Home Alone is my absolute FAVOURITE- Play some board games -our favourites here or some family card games like these ones Do a family quiz.

Set aside some time playing with your children's favourite new toy.

Bake some Christmas buns or cookies- and then decorate them!

Decorate a gingerbread house or biscuits together to enjoy in the evening. Snuggle up and watch the pick of Christmas TV.

Make plans for the year ahead

Put some ideas on notes in a jar, on balloons, or put some down on a big poster and get creative!

What are some easy & fun activities that you can do in the next month, few months, or even year ahead?

Go swimming, picnic in the park, trip to an ice-cream parlour?

Dress Up for Christmas Dinner!

Just because it's your household, you can still keep things special. Get out that special dress that you save for Christmas. Save your Christmas jumpers and cosy PJs for the rest of the day.

Get out for a Christmas Family Walk

One the Turkey's in the oven... take advantage of not hosting by getting out for some fresh air. Get wrapped up and get outside on your favourite family walk!

Source: <https://northleeds.mumbler.co.uk/christmas-day-at-home-tips-and-ideas-to-keep-a-small-christmas-day-special/>



LIGHT BULB MOMENTS

"Blessed is the season- which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." —Hamilton Wright Mabie

"To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas." — Calvin Coolidge

Poetry Corner

Christmas Traditions

*The Christmas gift list,
We all agree,
Requires a massive
Shopping spree.*

*Wrap it up,
Shiny paper and bows.
What's inside
We won't disclose!*

*Then the tree,
Fragrant and green.
Each year it's the best
We've ever seen.*

*Hang the bulbs
Ornaments too.
Light it up,
Say" ahh," and "ooh!"*

*Plan the feast,
Same recipes,
All our favorites,
Prepared to please.*

*Christmas customs
On joyful display.
It's always the same;
We love it that way.*

*So bring it all,
So necessary,
Beloved traditions
Make Christmas merry.*

© By Joanna Fuchs

<https://www.poemsource.com/Christmas-poems.html>
Source: <https://>

Tickle My Funny Bones



THE BUS RIDE

Two men talking on a bus:

"I've been riding this bus
to work for 15 years now."

"Lord Almighty, where did you get on?!"

Short Christmas Jokes

How do you know when Santa is in
the room?

You can sense his presents

How did the ornament get addicted
to Christmas?

He was hooked on trees
his whole life

How does Santa keep track of all the
fireplaces he has visited?

He keeps a log book

What happened to the thief who stole
a Christmas calendar?

He got 12 months.

PUN INTENDED

"Hey Christmas Tree,
you have a lot of balls
coming in here
dressed like that."



Ladyburd's Mail Box

EMAIL ADDRESS:

delseitaliburd@msn.com

or

islandsunnewsp@gmail.com

Dear Ladyburd: . I just moved in a new Apartment, and it seems as if my Landlord is coming into my Apartment when I am not home. I was so upset when I saw signs that someone was in my apartment. Do you think I should confront him or report it to the Police?...George

Ladyburd: Dear George: I would suggest before you report the matter, Have a talk with your Landlord and ask him if he came into your apartment when you were not at home. If he says he came to check on something or give you some sort of story, Let him know you do not appreciate it, and if it happens again, you will be reporting the matter to the Police.

Dont start a war.

ROAD TOWN SPARKLED AND SHONE AT THE FLOATILLA OF LIGHTS PARADE



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14



trucks, vans, buses, scooters, bicycles, and cars, each one meticulously decorated with holiday-themed lights and ornaments. Adding to the festive atmosphere were several notable participants, including the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force and the Fire and Rescue Service, who showcased their commitment to community engagement. A popular local taxi service also

participated, emphasizing the strong sense of unity within the city. However, the undisputed star of the parade was none other than Santa Claus himself. Santa made a grand entrance atop his bicycle sleigh, spreading joy and cheer to all who lined the streets to catch a glimpse of the beloved holiday figure.



Instant Pot and Slow Cooker Magic: One Ingredient Dulce de Leche Delight

Step into the magical world of dulce de leche, a sweet and velvety caramel delight with roots deep in Latin American culinary traditions. Dulce de leche is a luscious, milk-based, caramel-like sauce that can be used to top ice cream, swirled into cheesecake, used in baking, spooned over fruit, to frost cakes or just devoured with a spoon right out of the jar. Is there a better foodie gift for the holidays? I think not.

The best part? This couldn't be easier. You only

need one ingredient! Simply simmer canned sweetened condensed milk. Poof! Like magic, the sugar caramelizes and creates dulce de leche.

There are several ways to make dulce de leche. The only requirements are heat and time. Here are the techniques for making dulce de leche using your instant pot, slow cooker, stovetop and oven.

Each recipe below uses two (14-ounce) cans of sweetened condensed milk. You decide if you want to cook it right in the can or transfer it to half-pint canning jars with lids and rings.

To cook in the can: Do not open the cans. Remove the labels from the cans of sweetened condensed milk. Inspect the can to ensure it doesn't have any dents.

The hardest part is getting the glue off the cans. By the way, a paste of vegetable oil and baking soda works beautifully. To cook in canning jars: Pour the sweetened condensed milk into the canning jars, dividing the two cans evenly between three half-pint jars, filling to the top. Place the lids and rings on the jars.

INSTANT POT DULCE DE LECHE

Yield: 3 cups
Cook Time: 35 minutes
Cooling Time: 2 hours

Place a trivet or a steamer basket in the bottom of your instant pot. Put the cans or jars on the trivet or basket. Add water to the pot up to the maximum fill line.

Close the lid and set the Instant Pot to high pressure for 35 minutes. Once the time is up, allow the pressure to release naturally. Allow the cans to cool down completely in the water before removing and opening, which may take a few hours.

SLOW COOKER DULCE DE LECHE

Yield: 3 cups
Time: 8 hours

Place the cans or jars in the slow cooker and add water so the jars are covered by an inch. Put the lid on the slow cooker and turn to LOW for 8 hours. When the time is up, turn off the

The Sunny Side Up

slow cooker, let cool and carefully remove the jars. Allow the jars to cool before you open them.

Since this isn't a canning process, the lids won't seal, meaning it's not shelf stable. This should keep for about four weeks in the refrigerator, if it lasts that long. I'll never know.

STOVETOP DULCE DE LECHE

Yield: 3 cups

Time: 2 to 3 hours

Place the cans or jars in a deep saucepan and cover them with water. Bring the water to a gentle boil and simmer for 2-3 hours, making sure the cans or jars are always submerged.

OVEN DULCE DE LECHE

Preheat your oven to 425 degrees. Pour the condensed milk into a shallow, oven-safe dish and cover tightly with foil. Place the dish in a larger pan and fill the outer pan with water to create a water bath. Bake for 90 minutes to 2 hours, until it reaches the desired caramel color. Spread holiday cheer with the magic of homemade dulce de leche. Perfect for gifting, this one-ingredient wonder brings sweet joy to every celebration. Frugally fabulous wishes to all!

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](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com Visit Patti at www.DotCom.com. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

(c) 2023 King Features



Dulce de leche is a simple luscious, milk-based sauce perfect for the holidays

PHOTO CREDIT: www.JasonCoblentz.com

POLICE NEWS

ARREST BLOTTER

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 26, 2023

BURGLARY

1. On 26-11-2023 at 1620hrs, Police arrested and charged Kempes Nicholls, 32, of Wickhams Cay I with three counts of Burglary and two counts of Handling Stolen Goods.

2. On 23-11-2023 at 1526, Police arrested and charged David Baronville, 45, of Long Bush with Burglary. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 25-11-2024.

3. On 23-11-2023 at 1323, Police arrested and charged Mikhail Howe, 33, of Lower Estate with Burglary. He was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 25-11-2024.

THEFT

On 17-11-2023 at 0945, Police arrested and charged Melissa Logan, 38, of Manchester with Theft. She was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 15-01-2024.

ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM

1. On 17-11-2023 at 1530hrs, Police arrested and charged J'Loni Martin, 22, of Purcell Estate for Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

2. On 01-11-2023 at 1620hrs, Police arrested and charged St. Clair Percival of Road Town for Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

UNLAWFUL AND MALICIOUS WOUNDING

On 24-11-2023 at 1643hrs, Police arrested and charged Verne Forbes Jr., 29, of Sea Cow's Bay for Unlawful and Malicious Wounding.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

On 04-11-2023 at 0955hrs, Police arrested and charged Danny Benjamin of Duffs Bottom with Disorderly Conduct, Disorderly Conduct in a Police Station, Indecent Language and Threatening Language. He was granted bail in the sum of \$2,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 18-01-2024.

Be SMART

when using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)
most commonly used for cooking.



DO's

- Before using your LPG cylinder, check the valve and other joints to make sure there is no leakage
- Keep your cylinder in a vertical position with the valve on top
- Install cylinder at ground level on flat surface
- Replace rusty cylinders
- Keep cylinder away from electrical sources, air conditioners and switch boxes
- Ensure regulators to be used on cylinder are the same diameter as the cylinder valve
- Check your lines once a year, many leaks are due to corrosion



DON'TS

- **DO NOT** ever install your cylinder near any heat source or exposed to sun, rain, dust and heat.
- **DO NOT** place cylinder inside a closed compartment.
- **DO NOT** fill up above the 85% fill mark. You must leave 'dead space' to allow for the expansion of LPG from liquid state to gaseous.



IMPORTANT NOTE IN CASE OF LEAKAGE

- Open all doors and windows.
- Turn OFF the regulator.
- Call a qualified inspector.
- **DO NOT** switch ON/OFF any electrical equipment inside the house.
- **DO NOT** light matches, lighter or stove.



sol

A message from the Department of Disaster Management and Sol

INTRODUCTION TO THE STAMPS OF THE B.V.I.

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PART 9

By Giorgio Migliavacca

THE BEEWEE SCRAMBLE

The immediate postwar years offer little to the specialist; however, in 1951 a new decimal currency was introduced generating interest and confusion. Interest among collectors, and confusion among the local population with postal clerks scrambling to make sense when using a combination of stamps in the old and new currency. At the time stamps in shillings and pence were still widely used, but the new currency demanded that transactions and postal rates be converted. The United States dollar had been popular with islanders for a long time. In the 1940s a shilling was declared to be 20 USc which translated into 6d for a dime (10c). In the course of time the pound sterling dropped to \$2.82 and the Leeward Islands adopted their own British West Indies dollar of 100c. The change over had already taken place two-three years earlier in other Caribbean colonies without problems; it was quite simple for those islands to convert 1 penny into 2 cents (BWI&); but the Virgin Islands had been long using the US dollar and

even the British Currency was regarded as “problematic”. The “Beewee” dollar was most unpopular for the simple reason that locals continued to use the US\$ and postal clerks had to convert every transaction from pound sterling, to BWI\$, and finally to US\$. In a few words: BWI\$1.20 was the equivalent of 5 shillings (60 pence). Or 70 US c--which also translated 2BWI cents into 1 penny. The Post Office had perforce to divide by 12 and multiply by seven for each transaction. To compound the problem, many of the postal rates did not precisely convert to US cents. This meant that if one were not careful in the choice of stamps a few “precious” cents could be lost. Of course, in a small community no one (including the Postmaster) wants to be the victim or the profiteer of a bureaucratic complication. As we have pointed out stamps with the old and new denomination were postally valid; this gave birth to a number of “combination” covers which are rather interesting for the postal historian since they constitute something of a puzzle due to the facts enunciated above. Covers with stamps in the old UK currency and the new Beewee cents, if not philatelically manufactured, are of interest. Postally speaking, the incongruence and headache came to an end on December 10,

TO BE CONTINUED



Change of currency, mixed franking. In 1951 the British West Indies Dollar “Beewee Dollar” was adopted as a postal currency: 5 shillings = BWI \$1.20. In the long run this change proved very impractical because the BWI\$ had to be constantly exchanged against the US\$. The registered first day of issue cover pictured here represents a mixed franking in British and BWI currencies: 5½d — two 2½d. and one 1/2d. 1938 definitive — both ordinary paper — plus 12 and 3 BWI cents thus translating into a 26 BWI cents rate or 13d rate (1 shilling and 1d. since 2 BWI cents = 1d). It was relatively easy to translate pennies into BWI cents and vice-versa, but the same could not be said of the conversion of mixed frankings such as this into US\$ — the US Dollar being the de facto currency of the BVI since World War One when the USA acquired the neighbouring Danish West Indies (in 1917 St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix became the US Virgin Islands). [Migliavacca Collection]

THIS WEEK IN CORRUPTION

NO TIME FOR COP OUTS

BY TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

This is not a drill. The world is now facing a state of climate emergency - and when it comes to climate action, we cannot afford to take corruption lightly.

This week marks the start of the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), bringing together world leaders in Dubai to exchange views on the progress - or lack thereof - in keeping global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels.

The main question is whether 1.5 degrees is still attainable and if all countries are seriously ready to phase out fossil fuels. Well, the absence of presidents from heavily polluting nations - like China and the US - speaks for itself. Their non-attendance, however, cannot be used as an excuse by polluting countries in the Global North to not commit to investing in climate change mitigation efforts for countries experiencing the brunt of it, despite not being heavy polluters.

So, with increased risks of surpassing the 1.5 degrees threshold, governments are urgently spending billions of dollars on environmental initiatives, from flood protection projects to reforestation and renewable energy. And with mass amounts of funding comes increased risks of misappropriation, particularly in many countries already grappling with high levels of corruption. As a result, it's likely that climate funds will fail to reach the communities that need them the most.

This year's conference is also plagued with distrust, as several carbon fossil polluters are allegedly attempting to influence negotiations. But this isn't anything new.

Throughout the years, there have been many cases of alleged undue influence. Polluters - including the fossil fuel industry as a whole - commonly exert disproportionate, moneyed influence over policymaking that often results in diluted climate policies.

This needs to change. World leaders must take a more aggressive approach in order to stay true to their commitments to meet the goals set forth in the Paris

Agreement and UN bodies have to urgently regulate conflicts of interest.

For the first time, this year's conference requires participants to disclose their affiliations - but this still seems like a half measure. UNFCCC must establish an accountability framework, including clear rules of engagement and a conflict-of-interest policy to prevent undue influence throughout climate talks.

During COP28, it's imperative to pay attention to who is included in climate negotiations. Climate bodies should take stronger measures to prevent conflicts of interest while ensuring that the experiences of affected communities take centre stage.

Decision-making must be participatory and include those whose rights are directly at stake and are often first to speak up against corruption in climate projects.

But it's not all doom and gloom. On the first day of COP28, the world leaders agreed to key details for the advancement of the Loss and Damage Fund Operations. Over US\$400 million has been pledged to support countries experiencing the worst effects of the climate crisis. This fund can become an example of how comprehensive integrity frameworks and proper safeguards can ensure

large flows of climate finance are protected from diversion, and can ultimately change people's lives.

It's time to shift the way we, as a global community, develop climate policies and distribute funds. No more time for cop outs, climate action can only work if it's bound with integrity measures, includes civil society in every step of climate funding and ensures transparent lobbying information.

From embezzlement of funds to land grabs for mining, farming or development, an increasing number of cases show how corruption undermines the effectiveness of climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

It also contributes to tenure insecurity and human rights abuses and compromises trust in climate efforts, fuelling cynicism about the value of acting against climate change.



-Photo: Markus Spiske/Unsplash



COMMENTARY

The human element in capital



Dickson Igwe

November 23, 2023

Education and learning are the most crucial elements in the building of Virgin Islands prosperity. The human element is the defining factor in the capital mix. The appropriate mix of the components of capital drives wealth creation, with excellence in human resources as Key.

OK. Whether it is the sole proprietor, or tiny organization with a handful of employees, through to the multinational corporation employing hundreds of thousands, and even a vast nation state, the most important force for prosperity is the individual's learning, and then that individual coming together with other individuals skilled and otherwise, in teamwork, to realize a vision.

The human element decides the value and power of the capital mix required for achieving any outcome; that is the reason enterprise as driven by the entrepreneur or businessperson sits by itself as the leading factor

in economic productivity, and the most critical form of capital. Supply Side economics is the belief that the producer is king.

The objective of capital is simple: it is increasing profits, growing the balance sheet, and appropriating wealth and power for the owners of capital described as investors and capitalists. There may be other objectives such as where capital is managed for the common good such as is the case in nonprofit organizations, or under a socialist or communist state. The preceding forms of organization and governance are increasingly remote, as capitalism reigns supreme this 21st century. Private capital is pervasive and ubiquitous in today's materially driven social and economic culture.

Capital has become nihilist. It bows only to the most adept and wily capitalist. A winner takes all culture has created a global ruling class of billionaires who rule the planet. Politics is subservient to capital. Today, 100 families control the world's most powerful corporations. In essence, the tiniest minority of men and women rule the world. These people tend to be North American, western European, and white, although increasingly, global wealth and power is becoming more widely spread, especially as Brazil, India, South Africa, China, Russia, specific Middle

Eastern states, and developed Asian states, compete with the west for the highest stakes in the global capitalist culture.

Then the human element is the most critical portion of the capital mix. The entrepreneur sits in control of capital and how capital can be managed and harvested to build wealth, create jobs, and supply the planet's consumers with all they need to exist, from food and drink, to homes and household appliances, computers and cell phones, even cars, trains, and jet aircraft. The products of capital and the capitalist are as diverse as they are limitless.

The management of capital is the reason education is the most important ingredient in a country's wealth creation armory. Wealth creation requires a socially healthy, well skilled, and well-educated population, to utilize a country's capital. This is human capital.

Out of the education process, whether vocational or academic, comes the entrepreneur, the human resources manager, the healthcare professional, teacher, mechanical engineer, the computer programmer, the skilled roofer and mason, the chef, the boat captain and the airline pilot. The preceding, a tiny sample of the output of the learning system. Learning added to capital generates wealth and power for the society, with the

capitalist, also known as the investor, in the driving seat.

Supply Side Economics argues that in generating wealth for the owners of capital, there is a trickle-down effect: wages for management and employees, taxes for government, and charitable effort. What is good for Jack the Capitalist is good for the country, and everyone else.

Now, Germany and Austria are two nations that churn out highly skilled workers, in a variety of skills: heavy tools, heavy manufacturing, car making, chemicals, aeronautics, and so on and so forth. The two states are a type of industrial heartland of Europe.

When we board an Airbus or Boeing, we rely on the education and skills of hundreds of thousands of people to arrive safely at a destination. Likewise with healthcare. It is not only

the capital – technology-of a hospital, and the millions of dollars in medical equipment, that saves lives: it is scientific capital, plus the skills of the medical professionals working in harmony with technology.

The wise investor, before deciding to place his eggs in any basket will first assess the human element: the work culture, skills, and management, of the people in the organization, town or city, even country, before committing his cash. A poor human element mixed with capital brings the organization and business crashing down, notwithstanding the high value of the non-human elements of the capital mix. Never take the human and social element in the capital mix for granted. It is the horse pulling the cart.

Dickson Igwe

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Caribbean News / Regional News

“Collaboration between National AIDS Programmes and Communities critical to ending AIDS” -



(CARICOM Secretariat, Turkeyen, - Greater Georgetown, Guyana - Friday, 1 December 2023) - Collaboration between National AIDS Programmes, communities and civil society is critical to ending AIDS. This is according to Dr Armstrong Alexis, Deputy Secretary-General, CARICOM, during the CARICOM Secretariat’s World AIDS Day observance today, 1 December.

Activities this year are being held under the theme “Let Communities Lead”.

Dr Alexis illustrated how the partnership between communities and national AIDS programmes proved critical to reaching vulnerable groups during the COVID-19 pandemic with HIV prevention and life-saving medication.

The Deputy-Secretary General also acknowledged the significant gains made in the HIV response highlighting that between 2010 and 2022, new HIV infections in the Region decreased by an encouraging 15%.

He called on national programmes and civil society stakeholders to strengthen their partnership and emphasised that it is only through this unique collaboration that the Region can realise the vision of an AIDS-free Caribbean.

Remarks below.

The 2023 observance of World AIDS Day is happening at a critical juncture for Public Health within our Region. We

have seen how communities, particularly civil society, played an integral role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many lives were saved thanks to the efforts of our National AIDS Programmes, strategically collaborating with community-based organisations and groups to reach the most vulnerable with life-saving HIV medication during the mandated COVID-19 lockdowns.

From this experience, our Region now has several best practices that could be applied to other Public Health initiatives, but the key to the approach is the central involvement of communities. Hence, the selection of “Let Communities Lead” – the 2023 Theme for World AIDS Day, could not be more appropriate.

Civil society has worked hand-in-hand with our Ministries of Public Health and National AIDS Programmes to ensure that vulnerable populations receive HIV prevention, treatment and care and, most recently, to ensure the continuum of care during the pandemic.

In fact, the mantra of “leave no one behind” aptly describes the strategic approach to the Region’s HIV response characterised by a unique synergy formed between Government and civil society organisations.

Today, we can proudly reflect on the progress made because of this successful collaboration and the tremendous work of our civil society partners. Between 2010 and 2022, new HIV infections in the Region decreased by an encouraging 15%, demonstrating the impact of the united efforts of government and civil society.

This decline was more pronounced among men (18%) than women (10%). Furthermore, the expansion of HIV treatment accessibility resulted in a remarkable 53% reduction in AIDS-related deaths during the same period, with this decline slightly favouring women (56%) over men (51%).

However, it is essential to note that despite these strides, challenges persist. In particular, **addressing** advanced HIV disease diagnosis remains an ongoing concern in the Region. While the percentage of people living with HIV with suppressed viral loads increased from 39% in 2018 to 57% in 2022, viral load testing coverage fell below pre-COVID-19 levels, emphasising the need to address underlying inequalities and barriers, including HIV-related stigma.

Hence, the critical importance of creating an enabling environment for our civil society partners and community organisations to take the lead in fighting the stigma associated with HIV.

I encourage our policymakers and public health stakeholders to strengthen the partnership with civil society and to empower our communities to tackle the persistent challenge of stigma and discrimination.

We must continue to nurture and embolden our communities; it is only through this effective partnership we can achieve PANCAP’s Vision of an AIDS-free Caribbean by 2030.

Thank you.

Dear Editor, here is my heartfelt response to the news of Carissa Etienne's death

Statement by Sir Ronald Sanders, President of the Permanent Council of the OAS and Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda



The passing of Dr. Carissa Etienne is an occasion for deep sadness. If ever there was a person to whom every person in the Caribbean owed an enduring debt of gratitude, it was her. As Director of PAHO, she steered all of the countries of the Western Hemisphere through the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic. She worked tirelessly to secure vaccines for all Caribbean nations, and she toiled relentlessly to ensure the region got necessary medical facilities.

In June 2021, I wrote of her that “The Caribbean and Latin America owe much to the dedication and resourcefulness of PAHO – and particularly to the black, Caribbean woman at the centre of its operations – Dr Carissa F. Etienne.”

Her passing is a sad loss to everyone in the Caribbean. She represented everything that is good about us. We should all mourn her: we have lost a caring and strong champion who always answered a call for help and who advanced the region’s health diligently and forcefully.

She was a respected leader who reached the height of command in the Pan-American Health Organisation, overcoming many obstacles as a woman and a black woman. In many ways she was phenomenal.

We must be thankful for her life and her care.

VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS

Venezuela's Claims on Guyana's Territory Raise Concerns About Conflict

Venezuela has turned up the volume on its insistence that it has a rightful claim to Essequibo, a region encompassing the majority of the territory of Guyana, its neighbor to the east. However, the government of President Nicolás Maduro has little to no support from its regional neighbors or intergovernmental organizations.

The Venezuelan claim, bolstered by a national referendum Sunday in its favor, has prompted criticism from governments in both South America and the Caribbean, as well as a warning from the International Court of Justice. On Friday, the court ruled that Venezuela "must refrain from taking any action which would modify" Guyana's current control of the territory.

In recent months, Venezuela has further increased tensions by deploying military resources to its border with Guyana, and announcing that it has plans to install an airstrip in the area to provide logistical support for the development of Essequibo.

Over the weekend, Guyana President Mohamed Irfaan Ali said his country does not intend to surrender any territory to Venezuelan control, and called on the Maduro government to moderate its behavior.

"I want to advise Venezuela that this is an opportunity for them to show maturity, an opportunity for them to show responsibility, and we call upon them once more [to] join us in ... allowing the rule of law to work and to determine the outcome of this controversy,"

Ali said in remarks to his countrymen.

Stunt gone wrong

Christopher Sabatini, a senior fellow for Latin America at the London-based foreign policy think tank Chatham House, told VOA that the referendum in Venezuela had all the hallmarks of a publicity stunt that got out of control, and which now threatens to degenerate into serious conflict.

"This was mostly for domestic consumption, but basically, the Maduro government has pulled the trigger on something and we don't know where it's going to go," Sabatini told VOA.

Maduro took over the country in 2013, after the death of former president Hugo Chavez, and persisted with policies that have debilitated Venezuela's economy. The legitimacy of the Maduro government has been questioned internationally since 2019, after Maduro held on to power despite apparently losing the presidential election the previous year. With a new election scheduled for 2024, the Essequibo referendum was seen as an effort to galvanize voters behind the government.

Now, despite evidence of poor turnout and low voter engagement with the referendum, Sabatini said, the Maduro government is doubling down.

"If you listen to the rhetoric, both last night and today from Maduro and members of the government ... instead of being chastened, or instead of trying to move on, we see a crescendo of bellicose rhetoric, which should be troubling."

Roots of the dispute

Essequibo, a sparsely developed area of 160,000 square kilometers, makes up the western two-thirds of Guyana, which is located on South America's northern Atlantic coast between Venezuela to the west and Suriname to the east. Both Venezuela and Guyana border Brazil to the South.

The Venezuelan government has long claimed Essequibo, despite the fact that the region has been recognized by the international community, first as part of British Guiana and then as part of the independent Cooperative Republic of Guyana, for more than 100 years.

The Venezuelan claim is largely based on the fact that during the colonial period, Essequibo and Venezuela were both administered by Spain. As part of a settlement reached by an international arbitration panel in 1899, Essequibo was ruled to be part of British territory. All of modern day Guyana gained independence in 1966.

The International Court of Justice is currently considering the validity of Venezuela's claim in a plea brought by the Maduro government in 2018, but is believed to be years away from issuing a decision.

The border dispute gained salience in 2015, after oil firm ExxonMobil proved that there are billions of barrels worth of commercially accessible crude oil deposits located off the coast of Essequibo in Guyana's territorial waters.

Little regional support

On Sunday, the government in Caracas conducted a referendum asking the Venezuelan people whether they believed the country should declare Essequibo a Venezuelan state. Despite media reports that showed nearly empty polling places and other signs of low voter turnout, the Maduro government claimed that 10.5 million votes were cast, more than in the last presidential election. Of those, it said 95% were in favor of declaring Essequibo part of Venezuela.

In recent months, Venezuela has raised tensions in the region by shifting military assets to areas near its border with Guyana. It also claims to have begun construction of a military airfield near the border.

The Maduro government's claim to Essequibo has little to no support from other leaders in the region, with major regional intergovernmental organizations issuing statements critical of the

decision to hold the referendum.

The Organization of American States rejected the Venezuelan referendum when it was announced, saying in a statement, "We condemn this improper use of a referendum because it is illegal according to the 1966 Geneva Agreement, and because similar misuses of this instrument have served as a pretext in the recent past to try to justify the worst actions between States, including the crime of aggression."

Similarly the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) warned that a positive vote on the referendum, while not legally valid for purposes of international law, could be interpreted as endorsing the annexation of Essequibo by military force. In a statement, it said, "CARICOM insists that the referendum proposed by Venezuela has no validity, bearing, or standing in international law... but its summary effect is likely to undermine peace, tranquility, security, and more, in our region."

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SPORTS

Haycraft, Smit, appointed new BVI Spring Regatta chairman, director

By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

SAILING

Chris Haycraft has been appointed as chairman and Cayley Smit as executive director, as a new BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival era is underway.

Haycraft becomes just the third regatta chairman in its 51-year history, behind his father and founding chairman Peter Haycraft and Bob Phillips, both serving 25 years respectively. Phillips stepped down after celebrating the event's 50th Anniversary this year.

Haycraft said that he has been on the BVI Spring Regatta Board for the last 25 years working under Phillips during that time and his becoming chairman has been murmured and talked about for the last five years.

"As the 50th (anniversary) loomed, (Hurricane) Irma and COVID and all those things,

the 50th came and Bob wanted to take a step back and he has put in his time and he's still on the board," Haycraft said. "If I could have maybe found a better candidate, then I wouldn't be sitting here. But it was right and I'm happy to take over the reign."

Since replacing Judy Petz four months ago, Smit told Island Sun Sports that she has been speaking to competitors and working with sponsors ahead of the April 1-7, BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival, ensuring they have everything needed to run the event as it should be.

"I want to make sure that everyone in the BVI knows they are welcome to come to this event. I want to increase our numbers of local people coming, to enjoy the entertainment and to see what's going on, because it's a real bunch of fun people.," she said. "We have people coming from all over the world to race on our beautiful waters and celebrate what's beautiful about the BVI. It's a really proud moment for the BVI and I'd love more BVI people to be here enjoying it

with us and I think we've got a little bit of work to do there, to ensure everyone knows they're invited."

Haycraft said the BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival is an event that people come back to year after year, because they have a good time and described it as 'Disneyworld in the BVI.' "We put on a great show. Everyone has a great time, they tell their friends, they come back and it's a staple of the BVI calendar—not just sailing calendar—but calendar," he said. "People come to the village who don't even sail. They come because it's a social, fun, entertaining evening. Some of them come multiple times. One of the facts about the village is seeing people you normally don't bump into."

Making the regatta village all inclusive, setting up the village so people can come to Nanny Cay to see the racing during their lunch day, are among little tweaks Haycraft said they will be making to the event. With the April 2-3 Sailing Festival and the Scrub Islands Invitational, he noted that sailors who



Caption: New BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival Chairman, Chris Haycraft, left, and new Director, Cayley Smit

wanted a day off requested the Thursday before the regatta starts. Haycraft said on April 4 Thursday, they're looking at sliding a water sports day into that slot, which will be weather dependent. Events will include an afternoon of hydro foiling, going out with the Laser sailors and hopefully the Royal BVI Yacht Club's Optimist sailors. "That's it. Just small little changes, nothing big, nothing

drastic, but that will depend on the weather," Haycraft said. "We're looking at how we can bring the racing closer to Nanny Cay."

He said there's a solid team of 50 volunteers working behind the scenes, ensuring that the event is managed in a professional manner and results come out at the end of the day.

BVI U20 men avenge loss to Massey Academy with 6-1 win

By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

FOOTBALL

Johari Lacey scored twice in leading a BVI Men's U20 Football National team to a 6-1 victory over St. Thomas' Massey Academy on Saturday in Greenland, avenging a 3-1 loss in St. Thomas three weeks ago. The BVI team is preparing for the Feb 23-Mar 2, CONCACAF U20 Men's Championships in Nicaragua and will play in St. Kitts, Dec 15-17.

Lacey opened the scoring in the ninth minute and completed his brace in the 60th. Levon Williams scored in the 24th, T'Kho Morton from a penalty in the 57th; Jadon Quashie in the 70th and Othniel Gillings completed the scoring in the 90th. Omari Carty scored

for Massey in the 80th.

BVI coach Clinton "Tinnie" Percival said compared to the last time both teams met, his squad played with a lot more purpose and let the ball do the work.

"We got some early goals and that gave us a cushion so we could actually play the way we wanted to play, so I'm happy with what I've seen today," Percival said. "I think all around, it's about attitude. After we came from the game in St. Thomas, we told them they lost the game not because the team out ran us or anything like that, we had a low minded attitude to play. Today we asked them to play the way we train, and I think it surprised their opponent. They didn't expect the pressure and the pressure broke them down a lot more."

Percival said the game was a measuring stick for their St. Kitts game, because there's no surety who will make the cut.

"It gave us an idea to see who could play where, we made several different changes, so it gave me an idea of how we can utilize the players around us," he said, noting that the team played with a bit more shape. "That's what we asked of them and they showed a lot more focus in terms of when they have the ball, you hear players asking each other to run into positions they're supposed to be in, so for me, it shows they're understanding what we're asking them to do, they're making an effort to do it and that was a big step forward for us."

Dale "Massey" Richards said it's always a pleasure to come to the BVI, but they were not organized in their game. "We missed quite a few key players because they had to do the SAT exam—but not an excuse—we weren't organized," he said. "Our players were playing more individually, than as a team. It was more about me, myself and I, so the function, the



BVI's Marc Tan, left, defends against St. Thomas' Massey Academy's Ashton Sima

engine of the game was not with us today."

Richards said full squad or no squad, he looks for competition because his players need to play. "My joy is to watch them play," he said, noting that some players were on the USVI U17 team two years ago. "Some have improved, some are at the

same level and again, because of no competition, practicing, practicing, you really can't see. So with this game, I can go back to the drawing board and work with some elements I've seen that need to be worked on and hope they receive what the coaches have to say and be better for the next showing."

SPORTS



Virgin Gorda Avengers collecting their Women's 7-A-Side award, after beating the Rebels 3-1, in the finals



A Rebels player directs the ball ahead of the Avengers counterparts



Avengers 10 year old Chelsea Dywer watches the ball sailing past the Rebels' goalkeeper for her team's third goal



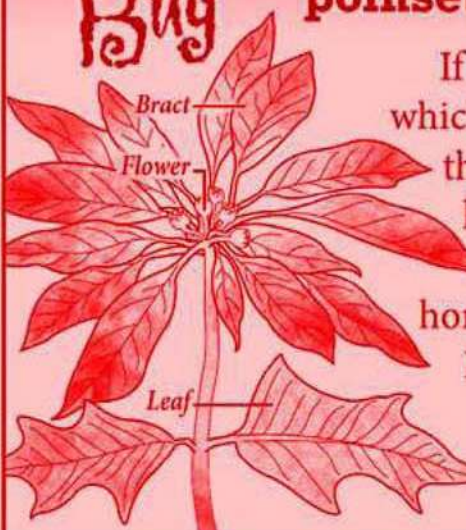
. Rebels finished 2nd in the Women's 7-A-Side tournament

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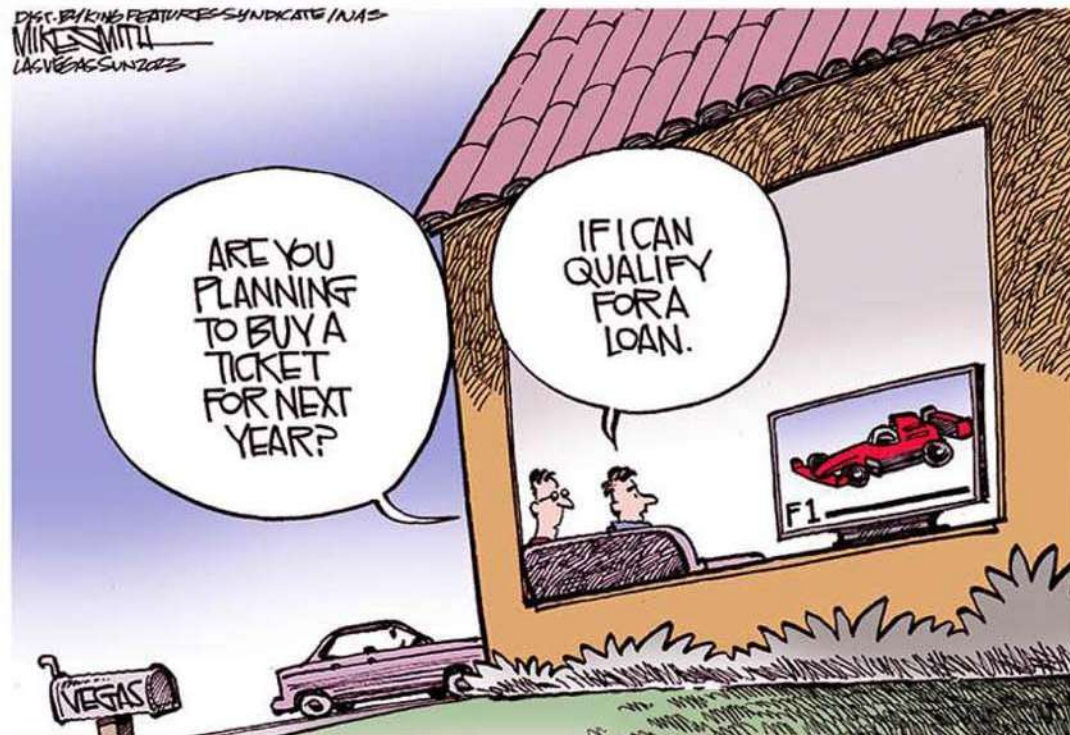


Selecting poinsettias

A healthy poinsettia will have attractive, intact bracts (the "petals"). Check the soil; it shouldn't be very wet or very dry.

If the little yellow buds in the center, which are the actual flowers, look tight, the quality of the plant is good. This holiday favorite is a sensitive plant, so wrap it in paper for the trip home to guard it from wind and cold. Place it in a protected area that has bright, indirect light. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: millcreekgardens.com
www.housebeautiful.com



Saying nothing...
 sometimes says
 the most.

Emily Dickinson

BrainyQuote

top ten

Highest-Earning Entertainers OF 2023

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5. James L. Brooks & Matt Groening \$105 million
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9. Taylor Swift \$92 million
10. Bad Bunny \$88 million

Source: Forbes

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CHRONICLE



Out on a Limb

HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

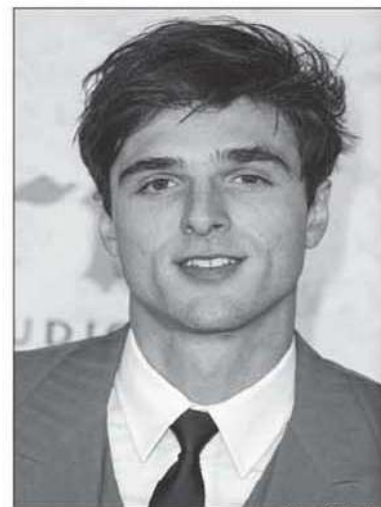
HOLLYWOOD — Pedro Pascal is arguably one of the busiest actors in Hollywood today. The 48-year-old “overnight sensation” (which only took 30 years) scored with the Max series “The Last of Us,” which begins shooting their second season early next year. Awaiting release for Pascal is “Gladiator 2” with **Denzel Washington**, which is scheduled for Nov. 22, 2024. He has also signed on to play Reed Richards, aka Mr. Fantastic, in Marvel’s upcoming reboot of “Fantastic Four.” The 2005 “Fantastic Four” and its 2007 sequel “Rise of the Silver Surfer” barely broke even, yet plans are afoot for another try at it with Pascal at the helm.

Then there’s his horror film “Weapons,” described by the Hollywood Reporter as an “interrelated, multistory horror epic that tonally is in the vein of ‘Magnolia.’” On top of that, he has **Ethan Coen’s** “Drive-Away Dolls,” which Coen wrote, produced and directed. It co-stars **Margaret Qualley**, daughter of **Andie MacDowell**.

Also upcoming for Pascal is “Freaky Tales” with **Ben Mendelsohn** and Netflix’s “The Uninvited,” which follows a stranger who crashes a party and sparks a comedy of errors and a reordering of life. In addition, he’s set to star in “My Dentist’s Murder Trial,” an HBO true-crime series about a dentist charged with poisoning his close friend. Small wonder why he bowed out of the fourth season of “The Mandalorian.”

Jimmy Kimmel, who hosted the Academy Awards in 2017, 2018 and 2023, has signed on to host his fourth Oscars, which will premiere on Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Christopher Nolan, director of the \$951-million-grossing film “Oppenheimer,” revealed that he decided to make the film after being gifted with a copy of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning book “American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of **J. Robert Oppenheimer**.” The gesture came from his “Tenet” star **Robert Pattinson** during the wrap party of their 2020 film.



Depositphotos

Actor **Jacob Elordi** (“Priscilla” and “Saltburn”)

Oscar-winning documentary director **Jessica Yu**, 57, is making a feature-length documentary exploring the origins of the 71-year-old Mad magazine. “What, me worry?”

In addition to “Priscilla” and the recently released “Saltburn,” with **Rosamund Pike** and **Carey Mulligan**, **Jacob Elordi** is currently shooting **Paul Schrader’s** “Oh, Canada” and will soon be shooting season three of “Euphoria.” But when asked to read for Superman, he said, “No, thank you! That’s too dark for me.” He wouldn’t even entertain becoming the next Superman. (The role went to **David Corenwet**.)

Elordi admitted, “I don’t see myself having any interest in that. I like to make what I would watch, and I get very restless watching those movies. And then I’m supposed to finish it with: ‘Never say never!’”

When asked about his highly rated Netflix trilogy, “The Kissing Booth,” he explains, “I didn’t want to make those movies. Those movies are ridiculous. They’re not universal. They’re an escape.” All I can say is call me ridiculous because I loved all three films!

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by Gary Kopervas



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



The Spats

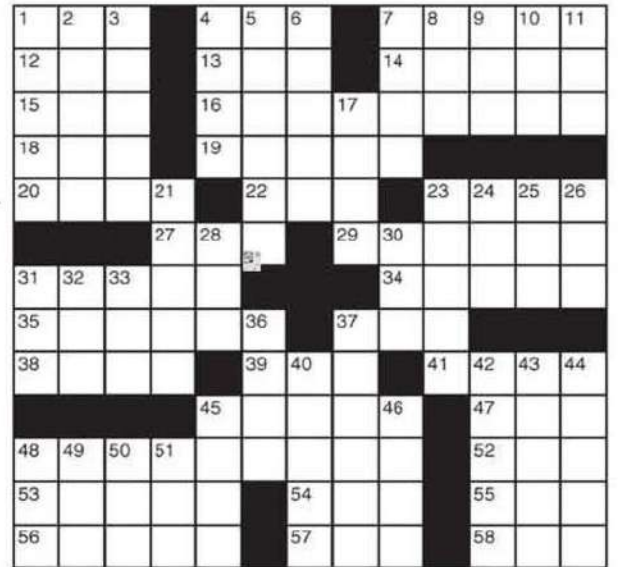
by Jeff Pickering



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Kapowl"
- 4 British ref. work
- 7 Holler
- 12 Director Spike
- 13 Chemical suffix
- 14 Fall sign
- 15 Nest egg acronym
- 16 Large, luxurious car
- 18 Brooch
- 19 Range
- 20 Collections
- 22 — tear (ragging)
- 23 First lady of scat
- 27 Earth Day mo.
- 29 Transparent
- 31 Dolphins' home
- 34 Traces of smoke
- 35 Agile
- 37 Obtained
- 38 Bygone Peruvian
- 39 Flamenco cheer
- 41 Vacillate
- 45 Quick trip
- 47 Shoe width
- 48 Pungent cheese
- 52 Aachen article



- 53 Sports figures?
- 54 Zsa Zsa's sister
- 55 Speck
- 56 Dunkable treat
- 57 River blocker
- 58 Actor Brynner
- 7 Pivot
- 8 That guy's
- 9 Kimono sash
- 10 Samovar
- 11 — kwon do
- 17 Ellipse
- 21 Ballroom dance
- 23 Radiates
- 24 Vinyl records
- 25 Back talk
- 26 Billboards
- 28 Picnic dessert
- 30 — Jima
- 31 Roman 1051
- 32 "There's no — team!"
- 33 "Better Call Saul" network
- 36 Bellow
- 37 Swiss metropolis
- 40 Sledged in the Winter Olympics
- 42 Like a neglected garden
- 43 Vowel group
- 44 Streisand title role
- 45 Equitable
- 46 Streetcar
- 48 Leary's drug
- 49 Jurist Lance Fortify
- 51 A/C meas.

DOWN

- 1 Radar dots
- 2 High nest
- 3 Signified
- 4 Fixes a squeak
- 5 Newspaper chief
- 6 Fiend

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

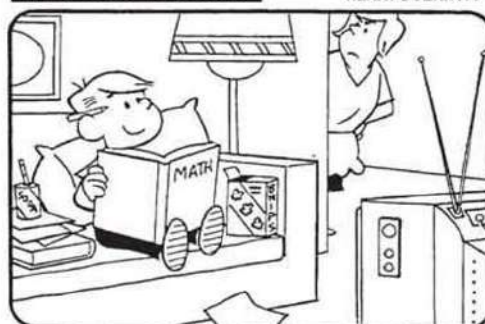
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

- ◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

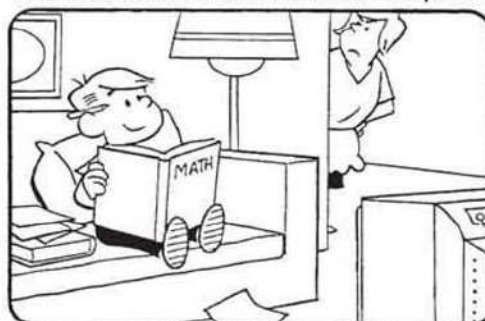
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.; 2. Arctic and Pacific.; 3. Fear of good news.; 4. 742 Evergreen Terrace.; 5. Generally between 300-500.; 6. Third.; 7. Surname.; 8. Internal organs of a young animal.; 9. Late 14th century.; 10. Copernicus.

Trivia Test Answers

- 1. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.; 2. Arctic and Pacific.; 3. Fear of good news.; 4. 742 Evergreen Terrace.; 5. Generally between 300-500.; 6. Third.; 7. Surname.; 8. Internal organs of a young animal.; 9. Late 14th century.; 10. Copernicus.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which Disney animated movie features the song "Whistle While You Work"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which two oceans are on Russia's shores?
3. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented in the condition called euphoria?
4. TELEVISION: What is "The Simpsons" home address?
5. GAMES: How many dimples are on a golf ball?
6. ASTRONOMY: Earth's place in the solar system is how many planets from the Sun?
7. LANGUAGE: What is the only country in South America whose official language is Dutch?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is a sweetbread?
9. LITERATURE: In which century was "The Canterbury Tales" written?
10. SCIENCE: Who is considered the father of modern astronomy?

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

U	L							
Y								

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

MORE READERS:

THE ISLAND SUN

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 1 Corinthians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. For not believing his wife would conceive, who was struck mute, not being able to speak? *Gabriel, Zachariah, Joash, Mesha*
 3. The Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes and the Golden Rule are found in what sermon? *Lamb blood, Agnus, On the mount, Dry bones*
 4. According to David, what does God's spiritual cleansing make us whiter than? *Light, Clouds, Wool, Snow*
 5. How many times is the name "Lucifer" mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? *1, 7, 9, 13*
 6. From Psalm 19, what do the heavens declare? *Holiness, Glory of God, Creation, Mighty wind*
- ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Zachariah, 3) On the mount, 4) Snow, 5) 1 (Isaiah 14:12), 6) Glory of God

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. FREE TRIAL!

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Water itself does not conduct electricity well, but the impurities found in water do.
- When Ethiopian emperor Menelik II didn't feel well, he would eat a few pages of the Bible. While this curious habit didn't do him any harm as long as his consumption was limited, in 1913, feeling particularly ill after a stroke, he ordered an entire Old Testament book of Kings to be fed to him, a page at a time, but died before he could complete it.

• Humans can live unprotected in space for about 30 seconds if they don't hold their breath.

• Two actors have died while playing Judas Iscariot in live productions of the biblical story by accidentally hanging themselves for real during his death scene.

• Ever find yourself getting a little sleepy during a virtual meeting? Contrary to popular belief, researchers have determined that the cause isn't information overload, but mental underload and boredom. (Frankly, we're not too surprised!)

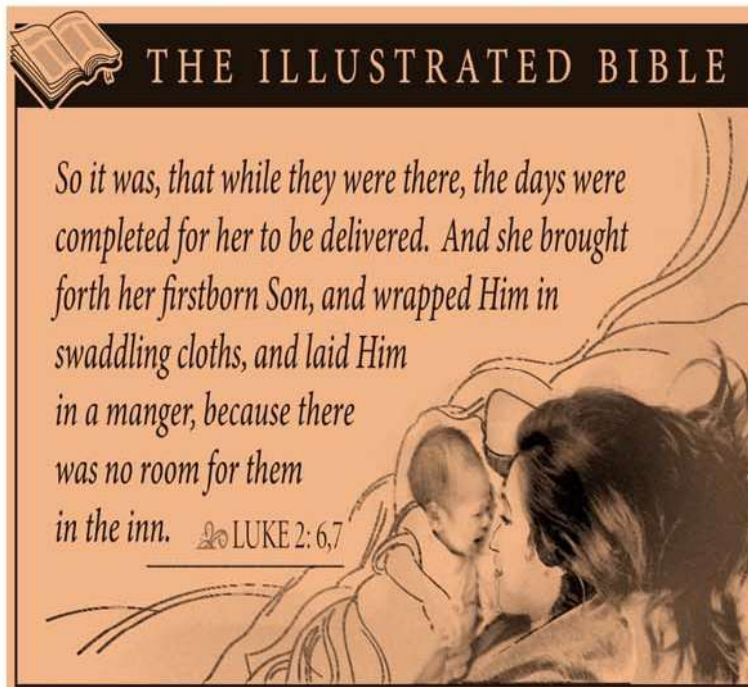
• A 1999 study found that a single square kilometer (247 acres) of the Amazon rainforest can contain about 90,790 tons of living plants.

• As editors around the globe already know, hearing grammatical errors can cause physical stress.

• Following a nationwide legal battle (and graceful concession from Gregory's Restaurant and Bar in New Jersey), Taco Bell successfully ensured that the term "Taco Tuesday" can be used freely throughout all 50 states.

• If Earth's history was condensed into a 24-hour span, life would have appeared at 4 a.m., land plants at 10:24 p.m., dinosaur extinction at 11:41 p.m., and human history would have begun at 11:58:43 p.m.

Thought for the Day: "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." — Benjamin Franklin



Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although taking advice isn't always easy for the headstrong Sheep, you might want to consider what someone you respect will have to say about an upcoming decision.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A new offer is tempting, but don't be bullied into a quick decision. Rely on your keen Bovine business sense to alert you to anything that might be questionable.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your "Gemini Twin" nature rallies to help you deal with this week's hectic schedule, both in your personal and professional lives. One caution: Watch your diet.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid rushing to make up for lost time on a stalled workplace operation. It's best to set up a schedule and pace yourself. Welcome the help of your colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Despite those glittering holiday distractions that you love so well, be sure to keep your feline senses set on high to alert you to anything that might require fast action.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Making an effort to restore fraying relationships proves to be more successful than you dared hope. The holidays also bring new friends into

your life.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Private and professional matters compete for your attention. Be honest in your assessment of which should get more of it — and for how long.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A seemingly endless list of must-do tasks is best handled by tackling them one by one. Don't forget to take energy-restoring timeouts between each job.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A vexing relationship seems destined to deteriorate no matter what each side tries to do. A third party's advice just might prove to be helpful.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Reach out and ease any tensions caused by home or workplace pressures before they threaten the relationship-building progress that you've made.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You often go out of your way to show kindness to others, so don't be surprised if other people want to do something nice for you this week.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) People in your life respect your Piscean wisdom, so don't hesitate to speak up about a matter that you feel isn't being handled quite the way it should.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your personal warmth helps you make friendships, and your sense of fair play helps you keep them.

celebrity extra

by Dana Jackson

Q. My husband and I have been eagerly awaiting for our “Chicago” shows to return. Is there a definitive premiere date yet? — *K.H.*

A. Yes, now that the strikes in Hollywood have ended, cast members have returned to their sets for filming. NBC has even started airing commercials officially announcing that “Chicago Med,” “Chicago Fire” and “Chicago P.D.” will begin airing new episodes, starting at 8 p.m. ET on Wednesday, Jan. 17, in the above order.

Also on NBC, another popular trio of shows — “Law & Order,” “Law & Order: SVU” and “Law & Order: Organized Crime” — will debut their new seasons on Thursday, Jan. 18, beginning at 8 p.m. ET.

Just because these long-running series are returning in January doesn’t mean that every TV network is ready. According to Variety, “the well-established machinery of the ‘One Chicago’ and ‘Law & Order’ franchises allows them to get back into the swing of things rather quickly.”

Q. Is it true that there’s going to be another “Frozen” movie? When is it coming out? — *O.P.*

A. A decade after Disney’s wildly successful musical movie “Frozen” premiered in theaters, a third one is in development — and possibly a fourth. It was initially conceived as a hand-drawn animated film back in 1937 based on Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Snow Queen” before it made its way to the big screen in the 21st century.

Stars Idina Menzel and Kristen Bell had originally auditioned for “Tangled” years earlier, both going for the role that Mandy Moore eventually lent her voice to. The wait was worth it, however, because “Frozen” would become the highest-grossing animated film of its time ... that is, until its sequel, “Frozen II,” surpassed it.

As for the “Frozen III” premiere date, online publications are guessing anywhere from 2024 to 2027. What matters, though, is what Disney says, and so far, an official release date hasn’t been set. However, Jennifer Lee, Disney’s animation chief creative officer, has stated that a fourth film might be necessary because “they have a lot of story to tell.”



Actress Jennifer Tilly

Two recent animated Disney movies — “Elemental” and “Strange World” — didn’t fare so well at the box office, and both were each based on original ideas. So, returning to a preexisting franchise like “Frozen” will be a guaranteed home run.

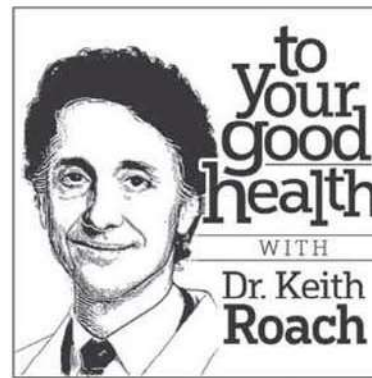
Q. I occasionally see actress Jennifer Tilly on “The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills” because she’s friends with Sutton Stracke. Is she still acting? — *K.J.*

A. Yes, Jennifer Tilly is still acting, and she’s also best friends with “RHOBH” cast member Sutton Stracke. She’s currently starring in the “Chucky” series streaming on Peacock. She also voices the character of Bonnie on the long-running animated series “Family Guy.” Tilly can also add being Oscar-nominated to her list of achievements for her supporting role in 1994’s “Bullets Over Broadway.”

If she has any reality show career aspirations, she hasn’t made it known, but she occasionally appears on “RHOBH” due to her friendship with Stracke. On the show, the two ladies recently greeted Stracke’s beautiful horse, Santos, whom Stracke had purchased overseas.

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

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Fatal Episodes of VFib Require an AICD Implant

DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m an 88-year-old female who has been diagnosed with ventricular fibrillation (VFib). My cardiac electrophysiologist, who implanted a conventional pacemaker four years ago, has noticed several episodes of VFib (up to 30 seconds, read via a bedside monitor). They recommend replacing the current pacemaker with a combo pacemaker and defibrillator. I wonder about the history/success of this device. — *C.R.*

ANSWER: Most people have heard about atrial fibrillation (AFib), which is a common, chaotic electrical condition of the top chambers of the heart. Without regular electrical input from the atria to the ventricles, the ventricles beat irregularly, but blood flow from the heart still remains adequate. By contrast, VFib is a chaotic movement of the lower chambers, and the heart does not pump blood during VFib.

Within a short time, 10 to 30 seconds at most, the brain will not have enough oxygen to keep you conscious. Unless VFib is rapidly treated or stops by itself (which is rare, but happened to you), VFib is fatal.

A survivor of VFib definitely benefits from an automatic implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (AICD). Nowadays, they also have the ability to act as a pacemaker; they recognize and immediately provide a shock during episodes of VFib.

AICDs first became available when I was in medical school during the 1980s,

but current models are a huge improvement since they are smaller and last longer. The evidence is strong that people at a high risk for a “malignant” arrhythmia like VFib live longer with an AICD than those who are only treated with anti-arrhythmic drugs. The rate of sudden cardiac death is reduced by about 50%. You are very lucky and should get this recommended device as soon as possible. They are common and effective.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Last year, my thyroxine (T4) level was abnormally high (12.2 mcg/dL). I ignored it, as it was slightly over the normal range of 4.5-12 mcg/dL. Six months later, it increased to 12.4 mcg/dL. Should I be concerned? My thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) level was normal both times. — *J.M.*

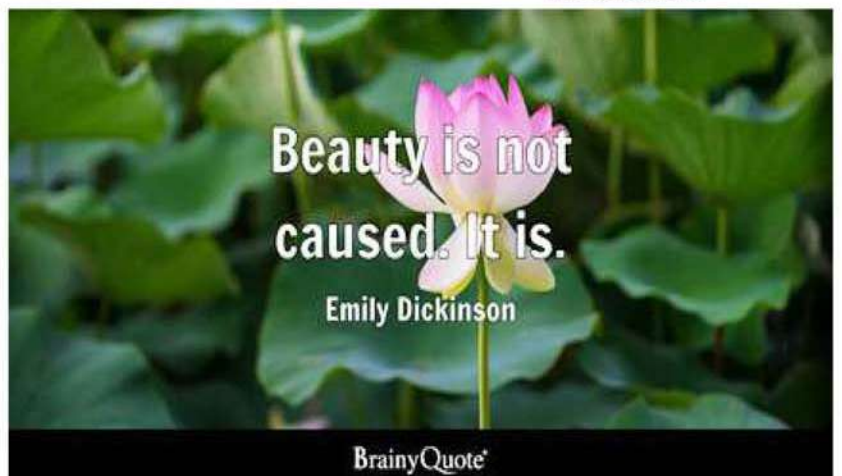
ANSWER: Although many people with abnormal blood results are perfectly healthy, the more abnormal a test result is, the more likely it represents something wrong. In your case, you are correct that the readings are just outside of the normal range. But because it is persistent, it’s worthwhile to get additional information.

Most importantly, were you having symptoms that made your doctor concerned about whether you might have a thyroid issue? Many people with high levels of thyroxine have excess energy, sweating, weight loss, tremors, anxiety and heat intolerance.

Next, do you have any other tests that might help support or reject the possibility of thyroid disease? In your case, it’s the TSH level. A high TSH level means that your body needs more thyroid hormone, whereas excess production of thyroid hormone from the gland usually leads to a low TSH level. Your TSH level is normal, which is strong evidence that the slightly high T4 level might be typical for you, especially if you don’t have any symptoms.

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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CLIMATE CHANGE REALITIES AT COP28: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States)

The upcoming Climate Change meeting in Dubai - COP28 - is enveloped in hype, yet expectations of transformational change are misplaced.

Industrialized countries, major greenhouse gas emitters, along with developing oil and gas producers like India and Saudi Arabia, often offer misleading statements. Countries like Canada and the European Union, despite their vocal commitment to climate change, frequently fall short in fulfilling their pledges.

That, regrettably, is the way of the world. This status quo, particularly among rich nations, will continue as they get richer, protecting fossil fuel producers and disadvantaging developing countries, especially small island states, even as the latter countries suffer the worst climate change effects.

The economic divide between developed and developing countries has been further exacerbated since the 2020 global COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war. In the US and the EU, for instance, we've seen a significant rise in workers' real wages. Reports indicate that in the US, average weekly earnings have notably increased since 2019, and in the EU, federal-government employees in Germany are expecting wage hikes of up to 16.9% next year. This economic growth in developed regions, however, often comes at a cost to developing countries. It's driven not only by internal policy but also by exerting control over international markets and financial institutions. The US and the EU, by protecting their agro-industrial sectors and imposing unequal trade agreements, gain access to markets in developing countries. Moreover, their dominance in institutions like the IMF and World Bank results in conditional financing for developing nations, impeding their ability to enhance production capacities and competitiveness. This economic strategy not only widens the wealth gap but also contributes significantly to climate change, as the agro-industrial systems of the US and the EU are among its largest contributors.

Additionally, the oil and gas companies exert considerable political power in

the US, the EU, and Canada, influencing policies through various means. These companies resist measures like carbon taxes to minimize their tax burdens, thereby expanding fossil fuel production, multiplying their profits, and worsening climate change.

COP28's propaganda will portray promises as progress, despite little action to mitigate the impacts on developing countries. Tellingly, the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found that the world is likely to surpass the 1.5 degrees Celsius warming limit by the early 2030s, leading to extreme, unadaptable climate disasters and fundamentally altering the Earth system.



Heatwaves, famines, and diseases could claim millions more lives by the end of the century.

Thus, the real task at COP28, beyond mere "stocktaking," is to establish legally binding rules for significant carbon emission reductions. Unfortunately, this is unlikely. Industrialized nations and fossil fuel-dependent countries, including coal producers, won't agree to binding commitments. Talk, promises, and pledges are easy and cheap.

The 'loss and damage fund', a critical topic at COP28, is shrouded in misinformation. Advocates from small island states have tirelessly championed this fund, facing significant challenges. Their struggle is evident when considering the power dynamics of past COP meetings. For instance, wealthier countries like China can send a large delegation, such as the 233 delegates at COP15, vastly outnumbering representatives from smaller nations like Haiti and Chad, who could only send seven and three delegates, respectively.

Moreover, the influence of fossil fuel companies cannot be overlooked. These companies unite to exert considerable sway over the negotiations, deploying numerous lobbyists and even distributing briefing papers to support their positions.

Alliances, like the Association of Small Island States, lack the numbers or expertise to negotiate effectively across multiple simultaneous committees. African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries might have better chances if they coordinate mechanisms and share negotiation responsibilities, but they don't.



Founded in 1962

by Carlos and Esme Downing
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At COP27, after years of advocacy, the concept of establishing a loss and damage fund was agreed, but its activation was delayed awaiting "recommendations" from a "transition" committee dominated by industrialized nations. Five meetings, including a hurried one in November 2023, were held to reach a grudging consensus on the Committee's recommendations for COP28, where nations are said to have agreed its terms on the first day of the meeting, but delivery is yet to be judged.

One reluctant recommendation is that the World Bank, distrusted by developing countries due to its policies largely set by the US and the EU, should run the fund. An African NGO, Power Shift Africa, declared the initial funding pledges "clearly inadequate" and the US pledge "embarrassing." Of the \$429 million pledged, the EU promised \$245 million, the UK \$75 million, and the US \$10 million.

Therefore, while hoping for an adequate and effective loss and damage fund, especially for small island states, I remain cautious.

The world is likely to surpass the 1.5 degrees target by the early 2030s, leading to extreme climate disasters beyond adaptation. The Washington Post found that countries are underreporting their greenhouse gas emissions, likely 16 to 23 percent higher than reported. Clearly, relying on inadequate funds in a loss and damage fund is unrealistic. The funds simply will not match the pace of damage and losses that continues to be inflicted.

Without radical change, matters will worsen. The UN Secretary General has called for the phasing out of coal, oil, and gas, responsible for over three-quarters of global emissions, but there's little sign of this happening. Developing countries' best hope lies in applying collective pressure to push for action.

The world has the scientific knowledge and resources to curb climate change; the damage can't be fully reversed but it can be halted, if the industrialized countries apply the necessary political will. However, developing countries should not expect industrialized countries to act without pressure. It is up to the developing countries to build such pressure. They should pool resources to develop and deploy joint strategies to cause industrialised nations to act.

The Alliance for Small Island States should begin the work to create such a platform for cooperation.



PUBLIC NOTICES

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

AMINO GLOBAL LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 424885

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 30th day of November 2023.

Dated: 30th day of November 2023.
(Sgd.) *Philippa V. O'Sullivan*
Voluntary Liquidator [29/1]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 203 of the BVI Business Company Act

KECCAK CAPITAL LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2086590

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 203, subsection 3 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 29 November 2023. The Liquidator is **Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated 1 December 2023
(Sgd.) *Harry J. Thompson*
Voluntary Liquidator(s) [29/2]

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

Territories (PTC) Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1898201

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 1st December 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan.**

Dated: 1st December 2023.
(Sgd.) *Philippa O'Sullivan*
Voluntary Liquidator [29/3]

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

Carrock Investments Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 90969

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 30 November 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: 1 December 2023
Rachael Pape
For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
As Joint Liquidators [29/4]

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

MEDFORD COMMERCIAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. - 1648122

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 28th day of November, 2023.

Dated: 1st day of December, 2023.
(Sgd.) *Philippa O'Sullivan*

Philippa O'Sullivan
Liquidator
[29/5]

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

Silica Intl Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1960393

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 9 November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this. 9 November 2023
Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/6]

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

FACHES INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1802282

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 12 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 12 day of November 2023
Ray George
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/7]

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

Bergis Business Services Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1034593

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 15 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 15 day of November 2023
Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/8]

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

Lizard Lighthouse Overseas Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1510400

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 20 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray A. George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 20 day of November 2023
Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator [29/9]

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

ROOTS VENTURES LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1857854

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 20 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY A. GEORGE of P.O. Box 315, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 20 day of November 2023

RAY A. GEORGE
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/10]

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

CLUB REUS I INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1554847

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 22 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 22 day of November 2023.

RAY GEORGE
Voluntary Liquidator [29/11]

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

CLUB REUS II INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1554824

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 22 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 22 day of November 2023.

RAY GEORGE
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/12]

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

CLUB REUS III INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1554813

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 22 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 22 day of November 2023.
RAY GEORGE
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/13]

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

Inversiones Cafilafquen S.A.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1051679

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 22 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 22 day of November 2023.

Ray George
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/14]

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

LAS MERCEDES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1397340

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 24 day of November 2023. The Liquidator is **RAY GEORGE of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 24 day of November 2023
Ray George
Voluntary Liquidator [29/15]

NOTICE

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
(NO. 16 OF 2004)

LKF Investment Holding Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 30th day of November, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidators is: -

Joan Johnson
Of Nerine Chambers,
Road Town, Tortola,
British Virgin Islands
[29/16]

NOTICE

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

Seaborg International Limited

("the Company")

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 24th day of November, 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 [29/17]

NOTICE

BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

Topking Enterprise Co. Ltd

("the Company")

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 29th day of November, 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
[29/18]

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

Shareholders Co Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number: 142640

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 1 December 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: 1 December 2023

Rachael Pape
For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
As Joint Liquidators
[29/19]

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

SOLIDUS DAE ACCESS VI, LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No: 2090289

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 29th day of November, 2023.

(Sgd.) *Philippa V O'Sullivan*
Liquidator
[29/20]

PUBLIC NOTICES

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 SOLIDUS DAE ACCESS VII, LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No: 2098795
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 29th day of November, 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan
Liquidator
[29/21]

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 SOLIDUS DAE ACCESS VIII, LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No: 2098793
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 29th day of November, 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan
Liquidator
[29/22]

STRUCK OFF
Liquidator's Final Notice
SOUTH AFRICAN BREWERIES INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS INC.
("the Company")
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 49444
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section (208) (3) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company was dissolved and struck off the Register of Companies with effect from 28th November 2023.
Dated 4th December 2023
Carmine Bailey
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/23]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act. CA Rend Holdings Ltd
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2122070
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 December 1st, 2023.
Dated: December 5th, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/24]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act Mabade Ltd
(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company No. 2118149
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 4 th December 2023. The Liquidator is **Myron Walwyn of Travers Thorp Alberga, 2 nd Floor Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.**
Dated 4 th December 2023
(Sgd) Myron Walwyn
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/25]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act Lowcoding Holding Ltd.
(IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company No. 2124472
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 4 th December 2023. The Liquidator is **Myron Walwyn of Travers Thorp Alberga, 2 nd Floor Jayla Place, P.O. Box 216, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.**
Dated 4 th December 2023
(Sgd) Myron Walwyn
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/26]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act Global Persistent Investments Limited
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 1788715
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 4 December 2023. The Joint Liquidators are **Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay I, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.**
Dated: 4 December 2023
Rachael Pape
For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
As Joint Liquidators
[29/27]

BELLEFLOWER OVERSEAS LIMITED
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 1828412
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 4th day of December, 2023.
Dated this 4th day of December, 2023
Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/28]

Final Notice of Dissolution under The BVI Business Companies Act: 2004 SUPERNATURAL WISE LIMITED
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1524251
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 4 th December 2023.
Dated: 4 th December 2023.
(Sgd.) Philippa O & #39; Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/29]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. FRAST HOLDING CORP.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1607463
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 December 5, 2023. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean, with address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
Dated: December 5, 2023.
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator [29/30]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. FERPAC MARKETING LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1044637
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 December 5th, 2023. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
Dated: December 5th, 2023
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator [29/31]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act. NEHEMIAH SERVICES LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
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 November 23rd, 2023. The Joint Liquidators are **Michele Hibbert with address at Sea Cow's Bay, Tortola, British Virgin Islands and Saajid Jasat Bhana with address at Obarrio, Calle 59, Casa 5, Apartado 0816-04554 Ciudad de Panamá, República de Panamá.**
Dated: November 23, 2023.
(Sgd.) Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana
Joint Voluntary Liquidators
[29/32]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004) Bay Information Technologies and Systems Ltd
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 5th day of December, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.
The Liquidators is:-
Joan Johnson
Quastisky Building
P.O. Box 905
Road Town, Tortola,
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110
[29/33]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004) BONBON BUSINESS MANAGEMENT INC.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 30th day of November, 2023; under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck from the Register.
The Liquidators is:-
Wayne Francis
Nerine Chambers,
Quastisky Building
P.O. Box 905
Road Town, Tortola,
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110
[29/34]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004) SYA TECHNOLOGIES HOLDING CO., LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 1st day of December, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation. The Liquidators is:-
Joan Johnson
Nerine Chambers,
Quastisky Building
P.O. Box 905
Road Town, Tortola,
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110 [29/35]

NOTICE BVI BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (NO. 16 OF 2004) SYA TECHNOLOGIES CO., LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 1st day of December, 2023, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation. The Liquidators is:-
Joan Johnson
Nerine Chambers,
Quastisky Building
P.O. Box 905
Road Town, Tortola,
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110 [29/36]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 CAPITAL TODAY PARTNERS LIMITED
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 656736
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 6th day of December, 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa. O' Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
Dated: 6th day of December 2023
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator [29/37]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 PB Holding Limited
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2082904
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 6th day of December, 2023. The liquidator is **Philippa V O' Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**
Dated: 6th day of December 2023
(Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator [29/38]

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
(PROBATE)

CLAIM NO. BVIHP 2023/0264

IN THE ESTATE OF FRANKLYN LEANDO FREEMAN, DECEASED

ADVERTISEMENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Deborah Denicia Hodge of Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased.

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 5 December 2023

Filed by Travers Thorp Alberga, Attorneys-at Law for the Administrator whose address for service is:
2nd Floor Jayla Place, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands; email: mpeters@tta.lawyer

[30]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
(PROBATE)

CLAIM NO. BVIHPB2023/

IN THE ESTATE OF KIRPALANI, SURENDAR MANGHARAM ALSO KNOWN AS SURENDAR MANGHARAM, LATE OF FLAT B, 13TH FLOOR, BLOCK 1, ROBINSON PLACE, 70 ROBINSON ROAD, MID-LEVELS, HONG KONG, DECEASED

ADVERTISEMENT

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 Probate of Kirpalani, Surendar Mangharam also known as Surendar Mangharam, of Flat B, 13th Floor, Block 1, Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong granted by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Court of First Instance in Hong Kong on the 11th day of August 2022.

Dated this 28th day of November 2023

Nelcia St. Jean
McW Todman & Co
Legal Practitioners for the Executor

[29]

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

Suntop International Limited

(□□□□□□□□)

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2110750

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 6th December 2023. The liquidator is Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 6th December 2023
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/39]

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

CAPITAL TODAY HOLDINGS LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 655457

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 7th day of December, 2023. The liquidator is Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 7th day of December 2023
(Sgd.) Philippa O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/40]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Regulation 13 of the Limited Partnership Regulations, 2018

Filet L.P.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
LP 2104

(the "Partnership")

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 13 of the Limited Partnership Regulations, 2018 that the Partnership is in voluntary liquidation.

The voluntary liquidation commenced on 4 December 2023. The Liquidator is Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearnan, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 7 December 2023

Rachael Pape

As Liquidator

[29/41]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

CLAIM NUMBER BVIHPB 2023/0243

In the Estate of Soraya Amedee, late of the Valley, Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by BERTHELINA AMEDEE HENRY of The Valley, Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the mother of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 18th July 2022.

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

Dated this 9th day of November, 2023.

Filed by Maximea & Co. Law Chambers
Legal Practitioners for the Applicants 2nd Floor,
Glancina George Building Road Town,
Tortola, British Virgin Islands

Tel: 1 284 494 6623,
494 2366 whose address for service is the same.
[29]

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Virgin Islands

In the Estate of Tsai, Teng-Long late of
2F, No.1-2, Aly 4, Ln.42, Jingxing Rd., Wenshan Dist., Taipei
City, Taiwan. (R.O.C), deceased

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Ching-Hui Tsai of 14F, No. 67, Zongzheng Rd., Xindian District, New Taipei City, Taiwan, ROC, a merchant, for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant, who is the son of the Tsai, Teng-Long late of 2F, No.1-2, Aly 4, Ln.42, Jingxing Rd., Wenshan Dist., Taipei City, Taiwan. (R.O.C), the deceased. The deceased having died intestate on the day of 19th May 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.

Filed by BGA Law (BVI) Limited whose address for service is Sea Meadow House, P. O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

[29]

CONTINUE TO PAGE 35

PUBLIC NOTICES



Lands Registry Department
P.O. Box 3140
Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands

BY EMAIL AND VIRGIN ISLANDS GAZETTE

BVILR/PRE/12/2023

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION
OF AN EASEMENT BY PRESCRIPTION
SECTION 138 OF THE REGISTERED LAND ACT
CAP 229 OF THE 1991 EDITION OF THE REVISED LAWS
OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Virgin Gorda South	4840B	229

The CHIEF REGISTRAR OF LANDS hereby gives NOTICE that NATHANIEL WEEKES, of North Road, Valley, Virgin Gorda, Virgin Islands, the Registered Proprietor of Parcel 322, Block 4840B, Virgin Gorda South Registration Section has applied to register an Easement by Prescription over Parcel 229, Block 4840B, Virgin Gorda South Registration Section. An unapproved Survey Plan dated 29th July 2019, produced by Christine Ferreira and an Affidavit was filed in support of his Application.

Parcel 229 is registered to:

- Janet Millington, Valley, Virgin Gorda

Anyone who has just cause to object to NATHANIEL WEEKES registering an Easement by Prescription over Parcel 229, Block 4840B, Virgin Gorda South Registration Section, as shown on the unapproved Survey Plan dated 29th July 2019 produced by Christine Ferreira should file their objection in writing at the Lands Unit on or before Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

An Interim Restriction has been entered on the Land Register for Parcel 229 pending the outcome of the application for prescription. The filed application may be inspected at the Lands Unit upon request. Copies will be provided by the Applicant to any objectors. Dated this 24th day of November 2023

Toni Hodge-Davis
Executive Officer
for Chief Registrar of Lands

To: Thornton Smith
Capitol Chambers
PO Box 3534
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Legal Practitioners for the Applicant, Nathaniel Weekes

Janet Millington
Valley, Virgin Gorda, VG1150
Virgin Islands
Registered Proprietor of Parcel 229

[29]



**Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Regulation 13 of
the Limited Partnership
Regulations, 2018
Counterpart L.P.**
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
LP 2105

(the "Partnership")
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 13 of the Limited Partnership Regulations, 2018 that the Partnership is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 1 December 2023. The Liquidator is Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 7 December 2023

Rachael Pape
As Liquidator
[29/42]

**Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Regulation 13 of
the Limited Partnership
Regulations, 2018
Moremi L.P.**
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
LP 2103

(the "Partnership")
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 13 of the Limited Partnership Regulations, 2018 that the Partnership is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on 1 December 2023. The Liquidator is Rachael Pape of Conyers Dill & Pearman, Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 7 December 2023

Rachael Pape
As Liquidator
[29/43]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1968427
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. Voluntary liquidation commenced on December 7th, 2023. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: December 7th, 2023

(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator
[29/44]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Virgin Islands**

Probate No. BVIHPB2023/0252

In the Estate of CHEUNG LUI YUEN NAR also known as YUEN NAR LUI-CHEUNG also known as YUEN NA CHEUNG late of No. 138 Kam Shan Village, Kam Shan Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by YU FU CHEUNG also known as YU-FU CHEUNG also known as CHEUNG YU-FU of 71, Rowantree Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 8PN, United Kingdom, for a Grant of Probate of the will of the above named deceased who died on the 14th day of February 2023 wherein the applicant is the substituted executor

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

Dated this 4th day of December 2023.

Filed by Walkers Attorneys-at Law whose address for service is

171 Main Street
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110
[30]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
(PROBATE)**

CLAIM NO. BVIHP 2023/0249

IN THE ESTATE OF SU, YU, DECEASED

ADVERTISEMENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Su, Chia-Hao of No. 15, Sec. 1. Guangming Rd., Puyan Township, Changhua County 516018, Taiwan, R.O.C for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased.

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 28 November 2023

Filed by Travers Thorp Alberga, Attorneys-at Law for the Administrator whose address for service is:

2nd Floor Jayla Place, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands;
email: mpeters@tta.lawyer
[29]

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

(PROBATE)

BVIHPB2023/0256

**IN THE ESTATE OF INGAH BEATRICE SMITH,
DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE that BENLY LOUEWLLYN SMITH, BRENDERLEE CHRISTINE SMITH-JONES and PETE SAMUEL SMITH, the children of the Deceased who died on the 30th 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 INGAH BEATRICE SMITH, deceased.

ANY PERSON or persons who has or have any objections to the Grant of LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION to the said BENLY LOUEWLLYN SMITH, BRENDERLEE CHRISTINE SMITH-JONES and PETE SAMUEL SMITH, all of Carrot Bay 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 28th day of November, 2023

Harbour Chambers BVI
Legal Practitioners for the Applicants

[29]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
VIRGIN ISLANDS
PROBATE DIVISION
BVIHPB No. 2023 /0263**

**IN THE ESTATE OF DARVIN ORLANDO JENNINGS aka
DARWIN JENNINGS, LATE
OF BELLE VUE, TORTOLA, VIRGIN ISLANDS, DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by MARIA FRANCISCA REYES DE JENNINGS (nee Reyes Rambalde), of Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands and ROSALIE ORLANDA JENNINGS, of Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands, for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicants, who are the wife and daughter of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 4th day of November, 2023 at his home in Belle Vue, Tortola, Virgin Islands.

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

Dated this 30th day of November, 2023.

Filed by N. R Samuel & Co, Solicitors for the Administrator whose address for service is 3rd Floor, Chevelle Center, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

[30]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No. 1803774

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 204, subsection (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the Company is in voluntary liquidation. Voluntary liquidation commenced on December 7th, 2023. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: December 7th, 2023

(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean

Voluntary Liquidator

[29/45]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No. 225263

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 December 7, 2023. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean, with address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

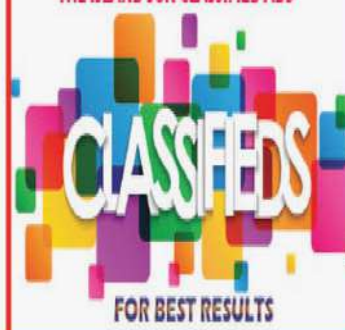
Dated: December 7, 2023.

(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean

Voluntary Liquidator

[29/46]

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[s30]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

(PROBATE)

CLAIM NO. BVIHPB 2023/0257

**IN THE ESTATE OF LENIA LUCINDA GREEN
DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE: that Delvin Marshall Green Sr, Delvin Marshall Green Jr, Dondre Malik Green and Dmoni Mateo Green all of Great Mountain, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, intends to apply to the Probate of Division of the High Court of Justice in the Territory of the Virgin Islands for the letters of Administration of the estate of LENIA LUCINDA GREEN, deceased, late of Great Mountain, Tortola, British Virgin Islands who died on the 26th day of May, 2019.

ANY PERSON: having any objections to the grant of representation to the Intended Applicants shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this notice, lodge with the Registry of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands a proper documents setting out the said objections.

DATED: this the 30th November day of November, 2023.

The Applicants in Person

284-542-5879

[30]

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

(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS

BVIHPB 2023/265

In the Estate of MOISES AARON SMOLARZ late of Avenida Del Libertador 3672 Piso 16, CABA, Argentina 1425, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by AIDA ESTA SMOLARZ of Rambla Williman, Parada 4, Edificio Millenium, Piso 21-03, Punta Del Este, Maldonado, Uruguay. 21000 for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the only child of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on 29th November, 2021 at Cervino 4720, City of Buenos Aires, Argentina, a married man.

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 5th day of December, 2023.

Filed by: SAMUELS RICHARDSON & Co

Legal Practitioners whose address for service is

Wattley Building, 2nd Floor

PO Box 3410

Road Town, Tortola

British Virgin Islands

[30]

PUBLIC NOTICES



Lands, Planning & Survey
Department
P.O. Box 142
Road Town, VIRGIN ISLANDS
TORTOLA, BVI

BY EMAIL AND VIRGIN ISLANDS GAZETTE
BVILR/PRE/13/2023

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR 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 Central	2738B	177

The Chief Registrar of Lands hereby gives NOTICE that ELROY THOMAS, of Pasea Estate, Tortola, British Virgin Islands has applied to be registered as the Proprietor by Prescription of Parcel 177, Block 2738B, West Central Registration Section. Affidavits were filed in support of his application.

Parcel 177 registered to:

- NORRIS CHRISTOPHER

Anyone who has just cause to object to ELROY THOMAS registered as the Proprietor for the aforementioned Parcel 177, Block 2738B, West Central Registration Section should file their objection in writing at the Lands Unit on or before Monday 15th January 2024.

An Interim Restriction has been entered on the Land Register for Parcel 177 pending the outcome of the application for prescription. The filed application may be inspected at the Lands Unit upon request. Copies will be provided by the Applicant to any objectors.

Dated this 7th day of December 2023

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

To: David Abednego
Harbour Chambers (BVI)
12 Chalwell Street
Road Town, Tortola, VG1110
Virgin Islands
Legal Practitioner for Elroy Thomas, Applicant

Norris Christopher
Registered Proprietor of Parcel 177

[30]

The BVI FARS Payment Portal Will Be Going Live Soon!!!

The International Tax Authority is pleased to announce that the BVIFars payment portal will Go Live in January 2024!!!

As a reminder, all relevant entities with reporting obligations are required to enrol in the BVIFARS portal to satisfy their respective obligations in relation to FATCA, CRS, and CbCr.

When is the annual fee due?

Although the portal will go live in January 2024, the deadline for payment of the fee is June 1st, 2024, and June 1st of each year thereafter, to ensure continued use of the portal.

How much is the Annual Fee to use BVIFars?

Each entity enrolled in the BVI Fars portal must pay an annual fee of \$185.

Who is exempt from payments?

Entities that have valid pending de-registrations in the portal prior to January 2024.

How can payments be made?

Select the payment option and follow the prompts. We accept:

- Direct Debits
- Visa
- ATH
- Master Card

Thank you for your patience and we look forward to serving you!

Have a query?
Email us at info@bviita.vg

Visit our website at <https://bviita.vg>

Telephone: 1-284-394-4415

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE Virgin Islands BVIHPB2023/0269

**In the estate of Ferdinando Peretti, late of Via Margutta
51A 00187 Rome Italy, deceased**

TAKE NOTICE that MATTEO PERETTI of Av. Da Liberdade 234 Lisbon, Portugal, the only child and sole heir of FERDINANDO PERETTI, deceased who died on the 22nd day of May, 2022, domiciled in Italy; intestate (the Deceased), has applied to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the Probate Division for a Grant of Letters of Administration in the estate of the Deceased.

ANY PERSON having any objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the said MATTEO PERETTI, shall within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this Notice lodge with the Registry of the High Court in the Territory of the Virgin Islands a proper document setting out the said objections.



Solicitors for the Intended Administrator
[30]

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

BVIHPB 2023/266

**In the Estate of IJAZ AHMAD late of 3, Old Avenue House,
Old Avenue, Weybridge
KT13 0PS, Surrey, United Kingdom, deceased**

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by JOSEPHINE ANN AHMAD, residing at 3, Old Avenue House, Old Avenue, Weybridge KT13 0PS, Surrey, United Kingdom for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the wife of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 13 th June, 2019 at St. George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, Tooting, England, domiciled in Pakistan, a married man.

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 5 th day of December, 2023.

Filed by:
SAMUELS RICHARDSON & CO
Legal Practitioners
whose address for service is
Wattley Building, 2 nd Floor
PO Box 3410
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands

[30]

Customer Wins Samsung Top Load Washer in Flow's Christmas Promotions



ROADTOWN, Tortola, December 7, 2023: George and Sharon James are the proud owners of a new Samsung Top Load Washer this holiday season thanks to their communications provider, Flow.

The lucky winners are existing customers who participated in Flow's "Bring the Joy" Christmas promotion by paying their

bill in full and on time.

Additional winners, Elmera Dawson, Orville A. Pusey, Lydia Scatliffe and Shanique Mitcham were also thrilled to have won Apple iPads for signing up with prepaid, postpaid or internet services. In congratulating the winners, -Marketing and-Communications Coordinator, Nadia A. James said,

"We are delighted to bring

the joy to all of our customers this holiday season and spread extra

Christmas cheer with a wide range of giveaways and prizes."

The first draw for the Apple iPads and the Samsung Washer was held on Friday December 1.

The next set of draws for the Samsung Stove and Refrigerator will be held on December 15 and December 22 respectively. There will also be weekly draws for the Apple iPads until December 22.

Flow's Bring the Joy Christmas promotion was launched on November 10 and continues until December 22, 2023, giving customers automatic entry to win weekly prizes of Apple iPads, car raffle tickets to win a 2024 Changan UNI-T vehicle, along with a Samsung Stove and Samsung Refrigerator once they activate a new prepaid plan; pay their bill in full and on time; or sign up for a new postpaid, internet or bundle service.

2023 Holiday Schedule for Offices and Warehouses and Extended Hours for Cargo Clearance

6th December 2023 – The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) would like to inform the public of the following holiday schedule for the offices and warehouses and extended hours for cargo clearance on Tortola and Virgin Gorda.

Holiday Schedule

Saturday, 23rd December 2023	CLOSING at 1:30 p.m. (warehouses only)
Monday, 25th December 2023	CLOSED
Tuesday, 26th December 2023	CLOSED (Boxing Day)
Monday, 1st January 2024	CLOSED (New Year's Day)

Extended Hours for Cargo Clearance

Saturday, 9th December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, 16th December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, 23rd December 2023	8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cargo vessels will continue to be facilitated during the holiday period, except on Sunday, 25 December in accordance with the British Virgin Islands Ports Authority Regulations, 1995, 143 (3), "Every harbour shall normally be closed on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Festival Monday and Christmas Day."

For more information, please contact 494-3435.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS HON. KYE M. RYMER

ON THE ANEGADA AIRPORT REOPENING AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

5th December, 2023

Greetings to the dear sister islanders of Anegada.

As Minister for Communications and Works with the responsibility for airports and fire and rescue services, I take this opportunity to announce that the stationed fire truck has been returned to Anegada, which has resulted in the reopening of the Auguste George Airport. Your safety

and well-being have been our top priorities throughout this process.

I want to acknowledge the inconvenience that our residents on the sister island of Anegada have faced due to the unintentional delay. Please accept our sincere apologies for any disruption caused. I understand the challenges this has presented, and I want to assure you that every effort has been made to expedite the delivery to minimise further inconvenience.

It is of utmost importance to emphasise that, despite the delay, the safety of our residents was never compromised. Immediate measures were taken to prioritise medical assistance and

evacuation for our fellow Anegadians if required.

Your understanding and patience during this transitional period in our services have not gone unnoticed and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your resilience and cooperation.

As we work together to restore normalcy, please know that your concerns are our concerns, and we are committed to addressing them promptly. Thank you for your unwavering patience, understanding, and solidarity.

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MINDFULNESS MURAL COMPETITION A SUCCESS

Schools Dazzled With Multiple Creative Entries

BRITISH - VIRGIN ISLANDS—The Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services Unit of the BVI Health Services Authority (BVIHSA) is delighted to announce the triumphant conclusion of the Mindfulness Mural competition, a transformative initiative that saw participation from fifteen schools across the Territory. The competition was aimed at fostering creativity and promoting mental wellness among students by inviting participating schools to create murals within their schools which promoted mental health awareness.

The competition has proven to be a resounding success, with each participating school showcasing exceptional talent and commitment to their individual and community empowerment. Speaking on the adherence to the theme of the competition, Dr. Virginia Rubaine, Director of Community Mental Health, had the following to say,

“Every year on World Mental Health Day, our team emphasizes our children and youth. This year we wanted to do something which was fresh, impactful, and that would serve as a constant reminder to the students that mental health and their wellbeing should be their utmost

priority. This was our first year executing this initiative and I was left overwhelmed by the apparent level of technical involvement which the students had had which demonstrates that they would have left the design process educated and empowered as mental health champions.”

Ultimately, the judges, who toured each participating school, found the task of selection an arduous one as the quality and uniqueness of each submission far exceeded expectations. The judges panel was comprised of; Dr. L. Sauda Smith, Executive Trustee of Unite BVI, the campaign’s primary donor, Mrs. Carima Wilson-Solomon, Education Officer (TVET), and Ms. Akasha Smith, Public Health Officer II. Their assessment and adjudication crowned the following winners:

Secondary School Category: Elmore Stoutt High School – Their entry focused heavily on a multi-dimensional approach to mental health and featured a handmade, upcycled swing, cushions and bean bag chairs.

Primary School Category: Valley Day Primary School – Their entry showcased a very high degree of individual understanding of the concept of mental wellness among the individual students as well as artistic flair.

Honorary Winner: Elsyn Henley Richiez Learning Centre – Their entry exemplified the social and individual aspects of mental health and was especially credited by the judges for their participation despite extraordinary circumstances.

Looking ahead, the mental health services team is excited to announce its plans to design permanent

mindfulness spaces at each of the winning schools, made possible with the generous support of donors. Additionally, as a token of appreciation for the dedication and accomplishment of all participating institutions, each school will be rewarded with a donation of therapeutic resources to further support mental

health initiatives within their communities.

The Mindfulness Mural competition has not only celebrated artistic talent but has also laid the foundation for fostering mental well-being in educational environments. We extend our gratitude to all participating schools, judges, and sponsors for making this initiative a tremendous success.



CONTINUE TO PAGE 40

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STAFF WANTED

Busy restaurant and Bar requires :
Experienced-waitresses/waiters on a full time basis. Applicants should be proactive in anticipating the needs of customers and possess a pleasant personality, with the ability to upsell and promote the restaurant's dining and bar menu fares. Willingness to learn Point of Sale systems and cashier operations, also a plus. Should also be willing to work and cooperate in a team supported environment. Please send resume and contact details to : vijobz@outlook.com
Sweet & Savoury Ltd. 541-1212[s29]

Deccon International Inc.is seeking a Mason. Minimum 5-years-experience. BVIslanders or Belongers preferred.- Serious applicants please call 343-6406. [s29]

Rosie's Caribbean Cuisine has a need for Cooks, Kitchen Helpers, Bartenders and a Waitress. Two years experience a must. Please call 341-3868 for more information. [s29]

Mac's Restaurant Ltd., a busy establishment located in the CBR Tortola Pier Park, currently has openings for the following positions:
1 - Experienced Breakfast and Lunch Chef
2 - Assistant Pastry Chef
Interested persons may call (284) 346-9777 or email macgarveythompson@gmail.com [s30]

EGS Construction Services is seeking full time:
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Masons,
Steel Fixers,
Electricians
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PO. Box 1048,
Valley, Virgin Gorda
British Virgin Islands.
VG1150
Tel: (284) 540-5856
O r . - E m a i l - t o :
egsconstructionsvs@gmail.com
[s30]

Sappy's Café needs one full time BARTENDER. Telephone 441-4329 [s29]

Project Manager for Systems-Integration company required. Must have 5 years minimum experience working in the field of Network Systems technology.- Belonger preferred, Send applications in PDF format via email to: info@avlbvi.com
Company name: AVL Ltd.
Telephone: 284 494 2801 [s30]

Hot Spot Club is seeking full time:
Bartenders,
Waitresses,
Cooks,
Cleaners
Send Resume to:
PO Box 1048
Valley Virgin Gorda
British Virgin Islands
Tel: (284) 540-5856 [s30]

SEETO - CHINESE RESTAURANT-needs TWO full time KITCHEN ASSISTANT and one full time RESTAURANT HELPER. Please call 494-2731 for further details [s29]

COMPANY CONSTRUCTION UNITED is looking for full time qualified:
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ELECTRICIAN
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PLUMBER
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Telephone 441-3525 [s30]

ROAD TOWN FAST FERRY needs two full time BOAT CREW and two full time BOAT CAPTAINS for more information . telephone 499-2405 [s30]

FREDO'S BAR AND GRILL(dba Bananas Bar & Grill) Seeking to employ the following positions to their team:
one-Trained-COOK / CHEF with Caribbean/International-experience, ability to work on own with great creativity, and eye for quality and cost control.

One-experienced BARTENDER/WAITER/WAITRESS, trained with 3 Star and above experience with minimum 4 years working experience in hotel setting.

One-DISHWASHER / HANDYMAN, general cleaning-and--light maintenance-duties, include, painting and maintaining-herbs / vegetables/care of goats.

Please send CV to: ahenley284@gmail.com or collect application at Bar (No Calls please) [s30]

Mlj breakfast & fast food is looking for the following:
2 Barmaid
1 Cook
2 Waitress
1 Assistant Cook (full time)
Please contact 541 7818 or send resume to P.O. Box 2858, East End [s30]

PARADISE - BOAT RENTAL need a full time BOAT RENTAL WORKER.
Telephone:284-547-4735. [s30]

ANJULIENA'S SCOOTER RENTAL needs one full time SCOOTER MECHANIC. Applicants MUST be able to Spray paint, Weld and fix scooters. Telephone 344-1229 [s30]

Seamstress (full time) required at J & C Trading Call 494-3121 [s30]

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