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No. 3235* 62nd Year * Tortola * British Virgin Islands * Saturday * 27 January 2024

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POPULATION CENSUS ENCOUNTERS ROADBLOCKS

In what was anticipated to be a meticulous and comprehensive data-gathering operation to inform future planning and research, the Population Census of 2023 in the British Virgin Islands has encountered a series of roadblocks, which affected

its ability to meet the December 31st deadline. During a presentation to the Standing Finance Committee (SFC), Raymond Phillips, the Director of the Central Statistics Office (DCSO), underscored the vital role the Census plays in collecting extensive housing,

social, and economic data that surveys typically do not capture. This data, essential for both public and private sector planning, sheds light on the living conditions and economic standing of households and serves as a primary source for poverty and living condition

analysis. The Census, conducted every ten years worldwide, boasts an extensive database encompassing numerous variables. This wealth of information allows for precise targeting of vulnerable populations and the allocation of limited resources to areas where they are most needed. It also informs decisions about the redrawing of electoral district boundaries based on population growth in specific regions. Furthermore, by comparing consecutive censuses, governments can gauge their social and economic progress or regression over time, making it an invaluable resource for research and long-term planning. However, despite its critical importance, the Census has faced a slew of setbacks. Initially scheduled to commence on 15 June, the fieldwork was delayed until mid-July due to technical

challenges. Over 80 enumerators were assigned to various enumeration districts throughout the British Virgin Islands. Yet, Phillips expressed growing concern that not all enumerators are actively conducting interviews, and some have yet to initiate fieldwork despite receiving repeated reminders.

Enumerators have encountered a host of difficulties in their efforts to collect crucial data. These challenges range from unresponsive residents and encounters with unfriendly dogs to outright refusals, skepticism about the legitimacy of the exercise, intimidations, and even threats. Some enumerators have felt compelled to request police escorts when visiting certain households due to safety concerns. These numerous and often disheartening challenges have taken a toll

Continued on page 2



Rhonda Victor-Pinnock emerged as the crowned jewel of the WINBVI Mrs. BVI Coronation, held on the evening of 20 January, at Captain Mulligan's Event Centre



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POPULATION CENSUS ENCOUNTERS ROADBLOCKS...from page 1

on the morale of many enumerators. Some have reduced the frequency of interviews, while others have promised to quit or have already returned their census equipment.

The Director emphasized that despite the Census's significant government investment and extensive awareness campaigns, there appears to be a notable lack of appreciation for the exercise among segments of the population. He firmly asserted that noncooperation without valid reasons should not be tolerated, as it jeopardizes the successful completion of the Census—a substantial government undertaking. Eighth-District Representative-Hon.-Marlon Penn, while acknowledging

concerns about the Census questionnaire being intrusive, called for innovative solutions to address cooperation issues. He suggested enlisting persuasive family members for households with large families and harnessing the influence of various associations to reach different segments of the community effectively. He stressed the importance of finding individuals who can establish a genuine rapport with the community, particularly young men, to gather essential data, such as unemployment rates.

The process to commence the census started in early 2020 with a call for enumerators. However, the call for an updated census began in 2015. It became even more urgent following the 2017 hurricanes. At that time it was explained

that the Territory's population which stood at 36,000 before September 2017 was reduced to 32,000. It is unclear what the current population number is. In late 2017 the household surveys were delayed because of the state of most homes as a result of damages sustained. It was reported that people were uncomfortable with the state of their homes and would not welcome enumerators; so it was decided that the survey would be conducted in the last quarter of 2018.

The 2010 census report was not laid on the table of the House of Assembly until 2014. The report stated that there were a total of 10,830 households and 28,054 persons residing in the British Virgin Islands at that time.

USVI LEAGUE OF B.V.ISLANDERS TO HONOUR THE LATE CARVIN MALONE

In a poignant tribute to the late former Minister for Health and Social Development, Mr. Carvin Malone, the League of British Virgin Islanders has announced plans to honor him posthumously.

Mr. Malone, who passed away unexpectedly on 14 January, at the age of 64, will be remembered during the League's-Scholarship Luncheon. This meaningful event is scheduled to take place at Victor's New Hideout in Subbase, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands (USVI) on 3 March.

While Mr. Malone had initially been among the five individuals selected for recognition, his untimely departure has made this tribute even more poignant. The President of the League of British Virgin Islanders, Mr. Moletto A. Smith Jr., shared that the Board of Directors, in collaboration with the Malone

family, has decided to bestow this honor posthumously, acknowledging Mr. Malone's lasting contributions. Mr. Smith Jr. conveyed the league's condolences, saying: "Our sympathies and prayers are with his family and the entire BVI community during this difficult time of bereavement." During his tenure as the Minister for Health and Social Development from 2019 to 2022, Mr. Malone faced the formidable challenges posed by the global Covid-19 pandemic. He was not only a VIP Member but also held the position of the party's President for an extended period before venturing into elective office. Despite an unsuccessful bid for a second term in the 2023 General Elections, Mr. Malone remained dedicated to serving the public through his One Virgin Islands Agenda platform, where he continued

to educate the community on pressing issues.

Beyond his political role, Mr. Malone was an active figure in various community leadership roles. He served as a Former President of the BVI Chamber of Commerce and Hotels Association, Vice President of the BVI Amateur Basketball Association, and President of the Lions Club of Tortola. Reflecting on Mr. Malone's remarkable contributions, Premier and Minister of Finance, Dr. the Hon Natalio Wheatley, paid tribute, stating: "Mr. Malone was a true champion for the Virgin Islands, and his sudden passing has left us all shocked and heartbroken."

The community looks forward to commemorating his legacy during the forthcoming Scholarship Luncheon.

FLOW

C&W Communications



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

GENERAL MANAGER

FLOW and C&W Business deliver world class telecommunications to the British Virgin Islands, offering mobile, broadband, fixed line and entertainment services to both consumers and businesses. If you are a high achieving self-motivated individual ready for a challenge in the high intensive industry of telecommunications, please submit your resume and a cover letter for the position of **General Manager**.

The primary function of the role is the Management of the business operations of a region and/or country. Management of internal and external strategic issues and opportunities. Full P&L responsibility for region and/or Country.

PRIMARY ACCOUNTABILITIES INCLUDE:

- Developing high quality business strategies and plans ensuring their alignment with short-term and long-term objectives.
- Leading and motivating team to advance employee engagement and develop a high performing managerial team.
- Overseeing all operations and business activities to ensure they produce the desired results and are consistent with the overall strategy and mission.
- Make high-quality decisions to advance the business and increase profits.
- Enforce adherence to legal guidelines and in-house policies to maintain the company's legality and business ethics.
- Review financial and non-financial reports to devise solutions or improvements.
- Build trust relations with key partners and stakeholders and act as a point of contact for important shareholders.
- Analyze problematic situations and occurrences and provide solutions to ensure company survival and growth.
- Maintain a deep knowledge of the markets and industry of the company.
- Promote our corporate culture throughout the organization.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- Experience in developing profitable strategies and implementing vision
- Strong understanding of corporate finance and performance management principles is critical
- Familiarity with diverse business functions such as marketing, PR, finance etc. is critical

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GOVERNOR RANKIN LEAVES BVI – HIS TENURE HAS MADE HISTORY

Governor John Rankin has departed the Territory thus ending his tenure as Governor of the Territory amid a back-and-forth between his office and the Government. The back-and-forth stemmed from the Governor's announcement that he was going to be requesting additional powers from the UK to advance the implementation of the COI recommendations. Both the Government and the Opposition took offense to the Governor's suggestion and implied that the Governor was tampering with the Territory's democracy.

In defense of his decision the Governor announced that he had no choice but to push for the powers. Mr. Rankin defended his stance, emphasizing that it is in response to the need to implement good governance recommendations outlined in the Commission of Inquiry report.

Governor Rankin argued

that his appeal for enhanced authority was driven by the lack of progress and determination exhibited by various ministries and departments to meet the COI's stipulated deadlines for reforms and improvements in governance.

However, the government has countered these claims, alleging that the governor is overstepping his bounds and encroaching upon the traditional powers held by elected officials in the Territory. Some lawmakers have even expressed concerns that these additional powers could potentially be used to introduce same-sex marriage legislation. In response to these criticisms, Governor Rankin clarified his intentions during an interview with ZBVI, stating: "I'm aware that the additional powers proposal is a strong proposal to make, but I think there's been some, perhaps incorrect representation of precisely



*His Excellency
John James Rankin CMG*

what it is I have suggested." Governor Rankin dismissed claims that the proposed powers would enable a takeover of the democratic system, including the introduction of same-sex marriage laws, by emphasizing that the additional powers were specifically intended for the implementation of

the Commission of Inquiry's recommendations.

He further elaborated, saying, "And whatever your views on same-sex marriage may be, that's not one of the Commission of Inquiry recommendations. So those people that have suggested that are way off beat in terms of what's being proposed."

Most likely they are victims of bigoted scaremongers that manipulate people and then speak of others doing what themselves are doing: breaking human rights.

The Governor stressed that his proposal sought to achieve nothing beyond what the government had already pledged but had struggled to deliver. He explained that the additional powers for introducing legislation were not meant to undermine the House of Assembly's role in passing

laws but rather to facilitate the process by addressing any obstacles that may arise in bringing legislation to the House for debate and consideration by lawmakers.

Governor Rankin reminded the public of the damning findings of the COI, which revealed instances of poor governance, misuse of public funds, misallocation of assistance grants, lawmakers failing to register their interests, and over two-thirds of major contracts not being subjected to open tendering processes.

The debate over the Governor's request for expanded powers continues, with both sides holding firm in their positions, highlighting the ongoing tensions surrounding the implementation of the COI's recommendations and the broader issue of governance in the British Virgin Islands.

29 JANUARY IS THE NEW DATE OF FAHIE'S TRIAL

The eagerly awaited trial of former BVI Premier Andrew Fahie, who is facing charges of drug smuggling, money laundering, and racketeering, has once again been postponed. Fahie's trial was initially scheduled to commence on 8 January but was delayed by two weeks, with a new expected start date. However, a recent announcement by Justice Kathleen Williams has pushed the trial back by an additional week, setting the new trial date for next Monday, 29 January.

The trial, taking place in a Miami court, has garnered

significant attention, both locally and internationally, as it revolves around allegations of drug-related activities and conspiracy on an international scale. Fahie, along with his co-defendant, former BVI Ports Director Oleanvine Maynard, was arrested in Miami in April 2022, following accusations that they conspired to allow huge quantities of cocaine to pass through the British Virgin Islands' ports.

The alleged illicit scheme was said to be part of a multi-million dollar deal Fahie entered into with an undercover informant from

the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), who was posing as a drug trafficker at the time. Kadeem Maynard, Oleanvine Maynard's son and another co-defendant, recently received a 57-month prison sentence after accepting a plea deal related to his involvement in the case.

Fahie's defense attorney, Theresa Van Vliet, raised objections to what she deemed the prosecution's "eleventh-hour" motions, which were filed just three weeks before the trial's originally scheduled start

date. Van Vliet argued that these last-minute motions introduced several critical issues that had not been previously addressed.

Among the key issues to be considered during the trial are the potential introduction of foreign law jury instructions and expert witnesses, questions surrounding hearsay testimony, and the possibility of an entrapment defense.

Furthermore, it is expected that Oleanvine Maynard, who has also accepted a plea deal, will serve as the prosecution's main witness once the trial begins.

The former BVI Leader faces severe consequences if convicted on the charges brought against him by the United States government, including the possibility of life imprisonment. Currently, as part of his \$1 million bond conditions, Fahie is confined to his daughters' residence in Miami, Florida, awaiting the commencement of his trial. The trial's delays and complexities underscore the significance of this legal battle, which continues to captivate public attention and raise questions about the former Premier's legal fate.

Remarks by the Honourable Sharie De Castro Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports

19th January 2024

Opening Ceremony of the Jost Van Dyke Primary School

Ladies and Gentlemen Good Afternoon, it is with immense joy and a profound sense of accomplishment that I stand before you today as we celebrate the opening of the Jost Van Dyke Primary School. This momentous occasion marks a significant stride in our commitment to providing quality education to every corner of our beautiful islands, as we strive to create conducive

learning environments for our students. The completion of this eagerly awaited project is symbolic of the government's unwavering dedication to ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education, regardless of their geographical location.

I must begin by extending sincere gratitude to the government of the Virgin

Islands for their unwavering commitment to education and for prioritising the funding that has made the realisation of the Jost Van Dyke Primary School possible. In allocating resources and prioritising education, the government has not only invested in bricks and mortar but has invested in the future of the children of Jost Van Dyke. It is through the government's vision and support that we stand here today, celebrating the opening of this educational facility. The impact of this investment will be felt for generations to come as it opens doors to knowledge, empowers young minds, and paves the way for a brighter future. While embarking on this educational journey, we encountered hurdles and challenges that tested our patience. The construction phase, unfortunately, faced delays that were beyond our control. Yet, throughout this period, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the staff, students, parents, and the broader community for their unwavering patience and understanding. Your steadfast support has been invaluable, and it is because of your resilience that we stand here today to celebrate this achievement.

Towards the end of the construction phase, the Leonora Delville Primary School graciously opened its doors to the students and staff of Jost Van Dyke Primary School. The heavy rains in October rendered the Jost Van Dyke Primary School facility unusable, but out of this challenge emerged an opportunity to foster collaboration and unity between two schools. I extend my sincere thanks to the principal, staff, and students of the Leonora Delville Primary School for their warm welcome and openness to this unique experience. The integration of two schools not only demonstrated resilience but also created opportunities for learning and development among both staff and students.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Recovery and Development Agency and the contractor Quality Construction for their pivotal roles in the successful execution of this project. Your dedication and hard work have transformed the vision of the Jost Van Dyke Primary School into a reality. I would like to express heartfelt gratitude to the Soggy Dollar Foundation and Unite BVI for your generosity and commitment to the Jost Van Dyke Primary School. Your support is instrumental in ensuring that our students have the resources they need to thrive, and it exemplifies the strength that can be achieved when the public and private sectors join forces in pursuit of a common goal.

As we celebrate this milestone, we are aware that there is more work to be done. The Ministry has been informed by the RDA that furniture and playground equipment have been procured, and we eagerly await their arrival. Additionally, certain safety measures must be put in place before the community can utilise the building. The Ministry has been assured by the RDA that these measures will be addressed as a matter of priority. I am pleased to announce that the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College is set to establish a satellite campus right here at this location. This means that residents of Jost Van Dyke will soon have the opportunity to access higher education, specialised training, and certification without the need to travel far. This is a significant step towards providing our community with broader educational opportunities and ensuring that individuals can acquire the skills and knowledge needed for personal and professional growth.

In addition to the educational






Hon. Sharie de Castro

facilities, we recognise the importance of a well-equipped library for any school and community. I am delighted to inform you that plans are underway to facilitate a library at this location. A library is not only a repository of knowledge but also a space that fosters a love for reading and learning. It will serve as a valuable resource for both students and the wider community, promoting a culture of continuous learning and intellectual curiosity. School infrastructure plays a crucial role in shaping the educational experience of a child. This brand-new educational facility is a critical step forward, long-awaited and much-needed, that will immensely impact the learning experience of the students on Jost Van Dyke. It is a beacon of hope, a symbol of progress, and a testament to our collective commitment to the dreams and aspirations of the people of this island.

In conclusion, let us celebrate not only the bricks and mortar but the boundless possibilities that this new chapter in education brings. May the Jost Van Dyke Primary School be a place where dreams take flight and where the seeds of knowledge blossom into a brighter future for all.

Thank you, and may this school be a source of pride and inspiration for generations to come.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

FLOW and C&W Business is accepting applications to the position of **Sales Engineer**. The primary function of the role is to support the CWB sales productivity and deal flow by securing the technical closure of more complex enterprise class solutions. The **Sales Engineer** collaborates with sales, services, engineering, and technical support resources to ensure that proposed deals include solutions that accurately address customer needs, and are appropriately supported by key customer technical decision makers.

Responsibilities
What You'll Do

The Sales Engineer is responsible for achieving a profit and productivity quota made up of the combined expectations of the sales resources, market and the CWB channel. Duties include:

- Works deals assigned to the CWB sales team, prioritizing effort based on maximizing total impact on team productivity and profit, or as directed by the Sales Engineering Manager.
- Proactively scopes the technical solution required to address customer requirements, assess customers' met and unmet needs, and recommends solutions that optimize value for both customer and firm.
- Be the design SME for corporate customer solutions, providing detailed drawings including all technical specifications and implementation plan.
- Secures input from all necessary solution stakeholders within the customer firm. Adapts solutions, as necessary, to ensure appropriate support.
- Coordinates closely with internal sales, sales support, product development, and service resources to align solution design with customers' business requirements.
- Prepare business case for RFP and large solutions requiring approval from the deal review board (DRB)
- Drive the DRB process for all solutions qualified for DRB approval.
- Prepare winning proposals and presentations to be presented to customers.
- Support the sales organization across the cluster to close sales and drive revenue.

Qualifications
Knowledge & Experience

- Bachelor of Science in Computing or closely related field from an accredited institution
- Minimum of 3 years sales or sales engineering experience in a business to business or large/strategic customer segment
- Knowledge and experience in solution selling

Skills & Abilities

Candidates must possess a high level of demonstrated competence in the following areas:

- A record of achievement and technical solution expertise
- Product certification, engineering credential, or equivalent technical credential
- PC and standard PC application proficiency
- Knowledge and experience with managed services and cloud solutions
- Good presentation and proposal writing skills

Employment Type: Full-time position

Closing Date: Wednesday 31 January 2024

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James Frett Building, Wickhams Cay, Road Town, Tortola
Major Bay, East End/Long Look, Tortola

VI Urged To Create Disaster Plan

Virgin Islands residents are encouraged to create or revise disaster plans as they plan their activities for 2024.

Director of Disaster Management, Mr. Jasen Penn said that the turning

of the year is an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned and improve going forward.

“Last year, the Virgin Islands experienced a number of minor earthquakes, a major flooding event, and

two close passes of tropical cyclones,” Mr. Penn said, adding, “Having an action plan for how to deal with these and other hazards helps protect persons and property.”



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)

The Director encouraged residents to make use of free templates for emergency plans for schools, businesses and families available on the Department of Disaster Management's (DDM) website, www.bviddm.com.

“In the event of an emergency, having an agreed upon plan allows you to bypass panic and take speedy and effective action. Investing the time to sit with your team or your family to agree on an emergency plan can save lives,” Mr. Penn said.

The Director stated that effective family emergency plans include considerations for shelter-in-place, safeguarding the home, evacuation locations and routes, critical contact

information and details for how the family will reconnect if separated. Plans for businesses should also include procedures for shutting down the business and re-opening after an emergency.

Once the plan is in place, persons should test their procedures to ensure they are a good fit, Mr. Penn added. Persons can exercise on their own or join a national-level exercise such as the Caribe Wave tsunami exercise on March 21.

The Department of Disaster Management works to foster comprehensive disaster management and climate change adaptation as a way of life in the Virgin Islands.

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ILS Fiduciary (BVI) Limited (“ILS BVI”)

ILS BVI is currently seeking a **Compliance Officer and Money Laundering Reporting Officer**

Key roles and responsibilities:

- Responsible for the local BVI compliance function and implementing and monitoring appropriate measures, procedures and internal controls to ensure the business is operating within the regulatory obligations and standards and assessing both the business and AML/CFT risks associated with client entities under administration
- Assisting the Board with the maintenance and updating of the Business Risk Policy and Register and assisting the Board with the Corporate Governance framework to ensure an appropriate framework is in place and effectiveness achieved.
- Review consultations and internal procedures to assist the Board and the Group Compliance function with implementing appropriate amendments to internal frameworks to ensure compliance with amended regulatory framework.
- Generally staying abreast of all regulatory updates, amendments and new laws and regulations relating to AML/CFT and associated matters and their application to the BVI Fiduciary Services industry. Identifying where changes and updates need to be introduced to internal procedures as a result of such matters and attending to the same in conjunction with the Group Compliance Manager.
- Responsible for assisting and ensuring the delivery and scheduling of Anti-Money Laundering training (online and face to face) including the administration of training and refresher programmes and assisting with the continuing professional development for staff to ensure it is in line with current procedures.
- Responsible for the maintenance of the relevant registers in accordance with the Regulatory Code and AML/CFT legislation and reporting to the Board and regulator as necessary.
- Acting as the MLRO for the purpose of receiving, logging and evaluating the suspicious transactions received from staff and providing appropriate support with regards to suspicions/knowledge and avoidance of tipping off. Monitoring the number of internal and external SAR/STR reports received and reporting on typologies detected and advising of risks to be mitigated.
- Liaising and submitting relevant notifications to the FSC as appropriate and acting as the main point of contact between the business and the relevant regulatory body for ad hoc, planned submissions and overseeing regulatory supervisory visits and follow ups.
- Maintaining the relevant registers relating to the AML/CFT Regulations and AML/CFT Code of Practice, as amended
- Appointment as the Compliance Officer in accordance with the Regulatory Code and to carry out all duties in accordance the Regulatory and AML/CFT framework, up to and including but not limited to, the production and submission of Compliance Officer Reports and Prudential Return in accordance with local legislative requirements.
- Responsible for ensuring the screening of parties connected to client entities and/or ensuring that staff is undertaking such screening against available intelligence database and regular internet searches.
- Responsible for reviewing new business from a compliance perspective and ensuring those entities have been appropriately risk rated and CDD/EDD has been undertaken as the case may be.
- Monitoring Staff Day to day adherence by staff to internal procedures to ensure that appropriate reviews are being undertaken on the client entities including the testing of the Introducer Agreements and monitoring of the end user client entities. Ensuring that staff is undertaking this work and updating the relevant records.
- To assist staff with file reviews for more complex client cases and to contact the client as appropriate where further explanation or technical assistance is required.
- Provide advice, support and guidance on technical matters relating to internal compliance policy or technical interpretation of BVI regulations.
- Monitoring and completing the appropriate monthly and quarterly reporting mechanism that monitors the compliance with internal and regulatory frame work and making regular reports to the Board and Group Compliance Manager identifying deficiencies and recommending enhancements to the process as appropriate.
- Identify training, development and coaching needs for self and team members and provide access to training or other development opportunities. Ensuring CPD requirements for team are met.
- To work with the General Manager to ensure that all company policies and procedures are understood and followed correctly by staff.

Qualifications and Experience:

- BVI Resident
- Relevant qualifications which demonstrates an ability to fully understand the regulatory regime.
- 5 years of relevant experience gained from performing in a compliance officer/money laundering reporting officer role preferably within a corporate and trust service provider
- Must be highly organized and self-driven and able to work as part as a team
- Have the ability to professionally and effectively communicate via oral and written communication with all levels internally and externally
- Strong knowledge of the Anti-money Laundering Regulations, 2008, the Regulatory Code 2009, the Beneficial Owner Secure Search Systems Act, BVI Business Companies Act, 2004, and the Economic Substance (Companies and Limited Partnerships) Act, 2018

****Remuneration will commensurate with qualifications and experience.****

Applications should be submitted to **Natasha Smith-Penn** at natasha.smith-penn@ils-world.com
Or for further information telephone no. 494 2999.

Unprecedented Success: Record-Breaking Cruise Arrivals

Tortola, British Virgin Islands, 22 January 2024 – The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) proudly announces a major achievement in its maritime operations, with a record-breaking number

of cruise passenger arrivals throughout the entirety of 2023. This accomplishment not only underscores the strategic significance of the BVI Ports Authority but also solidifies its position as a key player in the

region.

In a notable expansion of operations, the BVI Ports Authority facilitated not only a remarkable increase in cruise ship arrivals at the main cruise pier in Road Harbour, Tortola

but also a notable rise in calls to the sister islands. Particularly, the BVI Ports Authority has experienced a surge in visits from smaller, luxury cruise vessels and new cruise lines showcasing the diversified capabilities of the Harbours and Ports and the appeal of the entire BVI archipelago.

Throughout the year, the BVI Ports Authority witnessed an influx of cruise ships, breaking the previous annual record and highlighting the Territory's increasing prominence as a preferred destination for international cruise liners. The efficient handling of cruise vessels and the reliability of BVI's port facilities played a crucial role in attracting and accommodating the heightened volume of arrivals.

The BVI Ports Authority is excited to announce an increase in manifested cruise passenger arrivals, reaching 720,392 in 2023 compared to 343,571 in 2022—an outstanding surge of 110%. This also surpasses the highest recorded arrivals of 2016 at 699,105.

In 2023, the Territory witnessed a total of 354 cruise calls, with 232 taking place at the Cruise Pier compared to 2022's total of 263 calls. A total of 122 anchorage calls across the Territory are recorded for 2023; 9 at Road Harbour, 56 at Jost Van Dyke, 38 at Virgin Gorda, and 19 at other locations. This achievement stands as a testament to the dedication and professionalism of the BVI Ports Authority team, alongside local Cruise Agents, highlighting successful strategic collaborations and the seamless management of cruise vessel arrivals, docking, and departures.

In response to this milestone,

Minister of Communication and Work responsible for Ports, Honourable Kye Rymer noted that "The Authority's achievements transcend the enhancement of the Territory's economic standing through business expansion and job creation. They also cement its status as a dependable and appealing port, both regionally and globally. This success is not merely a result of internal efforts but is also a testament to the steadfast dedication demonstrated through strategic collaborations with key partners like the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) and the ongoing reinforcement of ties with cruise industry partners. These strategic relationships play an important role in contributing significantly to the overall accomplishments of the Authority."

Mr. Akeem Pickering, Managing Director of the BVIPA, expressed appreciation for the efforts that contributed to this achievement. "The record-breaking cruise passenger arrivals in 2023 demonstrates the BVI Ports Authority's commitment to operational excellence, maritime efficiency and strategic collaboration with local and international cruise stakeholders. Our facilities, dedicated team and industry relationships have played a pivotal role in accommodating the increased traffic, demonstrating our capability to handle the demands of a thriving cruise industry."

The BVI Ports Authority looks forward to building on this success, continuing to enhance maritime operations, and further solidifying its reputation as a premier cruise port facility in the Caribbean and beyond.

Exness VG Ltd

- **Complaints Specialist**
- **Full Time**
- **Tortola**

Exness VG Ltd is seeking to employ a Complaints Specialist (BVI)

The ideal candidate should have a knowledge of the brokerage and investment trading business and will be responsible for the complaints monitoring including but not limited to:-

- **Monitor and tracking complaints made by clients utilizing all available platforms.**
- **Liaising with Exness's departments to resolve and diminish the number of escalated customer complaints.**
- **Monitoring and resolving non-trading complaints fraud, finance, partner reward, etc.**
- **Maintaining control systems to enforce anti-money laundering and compliance policies.**
- **Maintaining reports of client trading complaints and resolutions.**

Qualification & Experiences:

- **University degree in Business Information Tech or MBA degree**
- **Minimum of 3 year working experience in e-commerce platforms - Lazada/Shopee/Carousel /Mudah**
- **Exness regulations and procedures**
- **Speak two (2) languages.**
- **IT skills/knowledge; salesforce and JIRA platforms, database & server management, CFD order processing, FX trading brokerage**

Applications should be sent to jmcsheene@mwmglobalhld.com

no later than February 10th 2024

telephone: 284 494 4388

BVI Islanders or belongers preferred

VI Government Signs Five (5) Year MOU Educational Upgrade



The Government of the Virgin Islands and Unite BVI have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for infrastructural, technological, and human resource

upgrades to the education system in the Virgin Islands over a five (5) year period. The first upgrade is the reconstruction of the Althea Scatliffe Primary School.

The full video of the signing ceremony can be viewed on the Government's Facebook page at BVIgovernment.

Exness VG Ltd

- Verifications Specialist
- Full Time
- Tortola

Exness VG Ltd is seeking to employ a Verifications Specialist (BVI)
 The ideal candidate should have a knowledge of the trading business chargeback management tools to provide the highest quality of services to Exness's clients. Duties to include but not limited to:

- Investigate and analyze chargeback disputes to gather relevant information, documentation and evidence of the original purchase of the transaction.
- Utilize Chargeback management tools and systems to validate the authenticity of chargeback claims and identify potential fraudulent activities.
- Collaborate with internal teams, such as Customer Support, Sales, Legal to obtain necessary information and support during chargebacks / fraud investigations.
- Prepare comprehensive chargeback reports and documentation, including evidence and analysis, to support the resolution process and response to the relevant parties.
- Assist in developing and implementing fraud prevention strategies and risk management measure to mitigate future chargeback incidents.
- Stay up - to - date with industry trends, fraud detection techniques and regulatory changes to continuously enhance chargeback / fraud investigation practices.
- Utilize KYC Verification tools and software to streamline the verification process and maintain accurate records of client information.
- Ensure that all KYC requests from payment providers are handled with the utmost confidentiality, diligently and in compliance with data protection regulations.

We're looking for someone that has :

- University degree;
- 3+ years experience within the CFDs/Forex industry working in a similar role - ideally in general AML Monitoring Activities and Fraud Prevention;
- Excellent communication (verbal and nonverbal), business acumen, organizational, presentation and problem-solving skills;
- Fluent in Native Korean and English language (verbal & written), any additional language may be considered a plus;
- Able to work on own initiative, independently, prioritize workload and pay attention to details.

**Applications should be sent to jmcshene@mwmglobalhld.com
 no later than December 27th,
 telephone: 284 494 4388**

[s36]

New Jost Van Dyke Primary School Building Officially Opened

Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports Honourable Sharie de Castro says the new school on Jost Van Dyke is a beacon of hope, a symbol of progress and a testament of the collective commitment to the dreams and aspirations of the people of Jost Van Dyke.

Honourable de Castro while addressing the official opening of the building constructed by Quality Construction said the new facility is a crucial step forward.

The Minister said, "School infrastructure really plays a crucial role in the shaping any child's educational journey. We believe that this brand new facility is a crucial step forward. It is long awaited but much needed and it will immensely impact the learning experience of every single child on Jost Van Dyke."

Honourable de Castro added, "Let us celebrate not only the bricks and mortar, but the boundless possibilities that this new chapter

in education will bring for the people of Jost Van Dyke. May Jost Van Dyke Primary School be a place where dreams take flight, and where the seeds of knowledge blossom into a brighter future for all, and may this school be a source of pride and inspiration for generations to come."

Meanwhile, Premier and Minister of Finance Honourable Dr. Natalio Wheatley said the Government of the Virgin Islands is committed to providing equity in education and public services to all residents of the sister islands.

Premier Wheatley said, "A lot of times, individuals who live on these islands with smaller populations feel neglected, they feel as though their needs are not being adequately looked after. They feel ignored and they feel forgotten, and it is our duty as a Government, our moral responsibility to ensure that despite where you are in the Virgin Islands, you deserve the

same quality of education and the same quality of public services from your Government. As difficult as it may be and as much as it may cost, it is our responsibility to ensure that you have equity across the board."

Representative for the Second District Honourable Melvin Turnbull said his district is thankful to the Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Honourable Sharie de Castro and echoed his thanks to all the stakeholders and donors that contributed to the project. He emphasised what the new Jost Van Dyke Primary school means for the community.

Honourable Turnbull also thanked the students, parents and teachers for persevering through every challenge and difficulty. He said, "You have pushed through COVID-19, through the hurricanes, through the lockdowns, through the power outages, through not having water, to being here today. This is your school, and grade six you



(left to right): Junior Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Honourable Dr. Karl Dawson, Leader of the Opposition Honourable Dr. Ronnie Skelton, Premier and Minister of Finance Honourable Dr. Natalio Wheatley, students from the JVDPS, Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports Honourable Sharie de Castro, Representative for the Second District Honourable Melvin Turnbull, Principal of the JVDPS Ms. Lavern Blyden, Junior Minister for Culture and Tourism Honourable Luce Hodge Smith, Owner and Managing Director of Quality Construction Mr. Roy Garraway, Minister for Communications and Works Honourable Kye Rymer, Chief Executive Officer of the RDA Anthony McMaster, Chief Education Officer in the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports Mrs. Orlandette Crabbe



(left to right): Leader of the Opposition Honourable Dr. Ronnie Skelton, Junior Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Honourable Dr. Karl Dawson, Junior Minister for Culture and Tourism Honourable Luce Hodge Smith, Premier and Minister of Finance Honourable Dr. Natalio Wheatley, Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports Honourable Sharie de Castro, Representative for the Second District Honourable Melvin Turnbull, Minister for Communications and Works Honourable Kye Rymer (Photo credit: F. Skerritt)

know how we do it. You will be the first class to graduate from your new school come June 2024."

Owner and Managing Director of Quality Construction Mr. Roy Garraway said his company encountered some difficulties in delivering the project but that he is excited to see the students in their completed building.

Mr. Garraway, "Some say that success is guaranteed when preparedness meets opportunity, but there was some conditions which affected the project that were a result of external factors, but with God's presence we persevered. You were one of my driving forces that kept me going. I was laser focused on the vision of seeing you young children of Jost Van Dyke being housed in a far better, more wholesome institute of learning than the one you

previously occupied."

Staff and students also members of the Government of the Virgin Islands and the House of Assembly to cut the ribbon and declare the new school officially opened.

The completed facility has 13 general classrooms, a principal's and guidance counselor's office, a sick bay, library, music room, science and computer labs, staff room, bathrooms and lockers, kitchen, general office and meeting rooms, parking facilities, playground, a backup generator, wastewater treatment plant, landscaping and irrigation; a basement with two storerooms, and a male and female washroom.

The full video of the opening ceremony can be accessed on the Government's Facebook page at BVIGovernment.



PMI is seeking qualified and experienced professionals to fill the following positions within the Firm's Investment Unit:

Chief Investment Officer - The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and communicating investment strategy and policies, contributing to business strategy, managing, and developing the investment team, supervising and overseeing the investment process, establishing processes to ensure investment policies are followed, and making decisions on asset allocation, and risk management across portfolios.

The suitable candidate must possess minimum qualifications as follows:

- CFA, CIMA or CFP Certification.
- MBA in Finance or Economics.
- Fifteen (15) years of experience in the investment industry at a supervisory level.
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to convey complex ideas in a team setting.
- Familiarization with international industry research tools, such as Bloomberg.
- Fluency in Mandarin, Cantonese, or Spanish is an advantage.

Portfolio / Investment Analyst - The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting in market surveillance, research analytics, idea generation and portfolio monitoring.

The suitable candidate must possess minimum qualifications as follows:

- CFA or equivalent Certification.
- Five (5) years of work experience in investment research or portfolio analytics.
- A strong team player and comfortable communicating in a diverse cultural environment.
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to convey complex ideas in a team setting.

Qualified applicants should kindly submit their completed CVs via email to:

HR@pmipensions.com

Deadline for submission: 31st January 2024

Eu-Funded Project Bolsters Vi's Climate Resilience



The Virgin Islands continues making strides to strengthen schools against the unpredictable impacts of disasters and climate change under the BVI SMART Schools initiative.

The collaboration between the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports (MEYAS) and the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) is being expanded with the support of the Resilience, Sustainable Energy, and Marine Biodiversity (RESEMBID) Programme funded by the European Union and implemented by Expertise France.

The latest iteration of the BVI SMART Schools project, steered by DDM, builds on the established partnership with MEYAS by adding the expertise of Green VI, H. Lavity Stoutt Community College and the BVI Red Cross to reshape the Territory's education infrastructure with resilience at its core.

Director at the Department of Disaster Management Jason Penn said the BVI SMART Schools initiative fortifies schools against the challenges posed by climate change. He said, "RESEMBID's financial support has facilitated a partnership to enhance our efforts at improving student safety and fostering a culture of resilience."

The initiative is funded by the European Union at a cost

of €1.3M over two years and seeks to make 14 schools across the Territory safer, healthier, and greener. The project has conducted comprehensive school assessments, provided essential guidance to individual schools, and initiated campus community emergency response training, strengthening preparedness within these educational institutions.

"What our students and teachers are learning prepares our wider community for greater resilience, which ultimately means a more prepared Virgin Islands," Mr. Penn said. RESEMBID Senior Programme Manager - Resilience, Edward Turvill applauded the focus on schools and students, saying, "Education stands as the bedrock of change. What we are seeing with projects in the BVI is a great effort to shift the community's idea of what it means to be resilient and responsive to climate change."

Mr. Turvill commended DDM and its partners for what he considers a comprehensive approach to the idea of SMART Schools. He said it is refreshing to see a coming together of partner organisations in the VI to address the core objectives of this programme.

The Senior Programme Manager said, "It shows that through this type of public-private partnership, BVI has the persons and tools to address some of the most

challenging issues surrounding resilience and climate change. RESEMBID is truly proud to have the chance to facilitate such partnerships that are to the benefit of society and future generations."

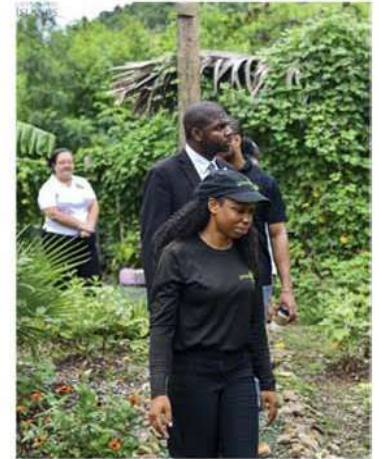
Programme partners are enhancing the legacy SMART Schools initiative to support target schools in key areas. For example, efforts to establish vibrant school gardens, conduct water and energy audits, and develop a culture of conservation within school campuses, are led by Green VI. BVI Red Cross has put its efforts towards empowering educators and enhancing the overall resiliency of communities by facilitating First Aid training for teachers. Its community

assessments continue to bolster safety measures beyond school premises.

Meanwhile, the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College's Centre for Applied Marine Studies remains dedicated to enriching student experiences through coastal resilience and marine biodiversity education, nurturing a generation equipped to safeguard the marine environment amidst climate challenges.

Schools participating in this iteration of the BVI SMART Schools initiative include Claudia Creque Educational Centre, Alexandria Maduro Primary, Joyce Samuel Primary, Bregado Flax Educational Centre Primary and Secondary Division, Francis Lettsome

Primary, Leonora Delville Primary, Ivan Dawson Primary, Ebenezer Thomas Primary, Enis Adams Primary, Enid Scatliffe Pre-Primary, Willard Wheatley Primary, Robinson O'Neal Memorial Primary and Elmore Stoutt High School.



St. George's Episcopal Schools



St. George's Episcopal Schools are searching for the following vacancies to be filled for the school year 2023-2024:

General Classroom Teachers – Primary School
Subject Teachers – Secondary School

Candidates must possess teaching experience AND/OR requisite teaching certification AND/OR Bachelors Degree in the area for which the application is being submitted. Applicants must be members in good standing in a Christian denomination, and must espouse the Christian values of the Kingdom of God as proclaimed in the Gospel.

Consideration will also be given to the candidate who is energetic, a team player and who is willing to support the continuing development of the St. George's Episcopal Schools.

Applications must include a cover letter, complete academic records, including a transcript and copies of degrees, diplomas, and certificates, as well as two character references.

All applications should be addressed to: Dr. Cherilyn Anderson-Rogers, Executive Principal, St. George's Episcopal Schools and emailed to:

sgps@stgedotvi.org (for primary applications)

sgss@stgedotvi.org (for secondary applications) no later than June 30th, 2024.



GLOBAL NEWS BRIEF

STORIES SELECTED BY GIORGIO MIGLIAVACCA

USA - 2023 was slowest year for US home sales in nearly 30 years as high mortgage rates frustrated buyers. Mortgage rates have been mostly easing since November, echoing a pullback in the 10-year Treasury yield, which lenders use as a guide to pricing loans. Sales of previously occupied U.S. homes sank in 2023 to a nearly 30-year low as mortgage rates climbed to the highest level in more than two decades and prices hit record highs, pushing homeownership out of reach for many Americans.

The National Association of Realtors said Friday that existing U.S. home sales totaled 4.09 million last year, an 18.7% decline from 2022. That is the weakest year for home sales since 1995 and the biggest annual decline since 2007, the start of the housing slump of the late 2000s. The median national home price for all of last year edged up just under 1% to record high of \$389,800, the NAR said.

Mortgage rates surged in 2023, climbing to a two-decade high of 7.08% by late October as the Federal Reserve continued to boost its key lending rate in a quest to cool the economy and tame inflation.

The sharply higher home loan borrowing costs limited home hunters' buying power on

top of years of soaring prices. A stubbornly low level of homes for sale also kept many would-be homebuyers and sellers on the sidelines.

Mortgage rates have been mostly easing since November, echoing a pullback in the 10-year Treasury yield, which lenders use as a guide to pricing loans. The yield has largely come down on hopes that inflation has cooled enough for the Federal Reserve to shift to cutting interest rates this year.

The average rate on a 30-year home loan was 6.6% this week, according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac. If rates continue to ease, as many economists expect, that should help boost demand heading into the spring homebuying season, which traditionally begins in late February. [El Pais]

ITALY - Police clashed with demonstrators protesting against Israeli participants at the VicenzaOro jewellery-sector trade fair in Vicenza on Saturday.

The clashes took place after the march, which started shortly before 11.20 a.m. with about 500 participants, deviated from the established route, with protesters trying to the area of the trade-fair centre.

At this point police in riot gear baton-charged the protesters.

The demonstrators threw

smoke bombs and firecrackers and the police responded by firing water cannons.

Nine police officers were injured in the clashes, sources said.

"The right to demonstrate is sacred and it is protected by the Constitution.

"But those who take to the streets carrying clubs with their faces covered go against the legacy of the founding fathers (of the republic), who wrote that article (of the Constitution) after the darkest years in the history of our country". [ANSA]

GERMANY - Huge crowds of protesters have descended on cities in Germany, as demonstrations calling for a ban on the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) gain momentum.

Tens of thousands have already braved sub-zero temperatures this week to protest against the party, after it emerged senior AfD members discussed a plan to deport migrants en masse in revelations that have been compared to the Nazi era.

Crowds of up to 35,000 gathered in Frankfurt on Saturday under the banner "Defend democracy - Frankfurt against the AfD," while a similar number of people turned out in the northern city of Hanover, German newspaper Der Spiegel reported.

Significant crowds were also seen in Stuttgart, Dortmund and Nuremberg.

In a video message issued Friday night, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz welcomed this weekend's protests as "good and right."

He added that he tries to imagine "how the more than 20 million citizens who have a history of migration feel" about the deportation plans.

Protests of up to 30,000 people have already taken place in cities including Berlin, Leipzig, Rostock, Essen and Cologne. Demonstrators gathered outside the capital's redbrick town hall on Wednesday holding placards reading "Nazis out" and chanting slogans against far-right AfD politician Björn Höcke.

People are enraged by reports that senior members of the AfD discussed a "master plan" for the mass deportation of German asylum-seekers and German citizens of foreign origin during a meeting late last year. [CNN]

BAHAMS - The world's largest cruise ship, Icon of the Seas, which is owned and operated by Royal Caribbean International (RCI), was docked at the Nassau Cruise Port last weekend.

President and Chief Executive Officer of RCI Michael Bayley said during a ceremony onboard Icon of the Seas, to mark its first sailing to Nassau, that RCI is expected to bring more than four million cruise visitors to The Bahamas this year.

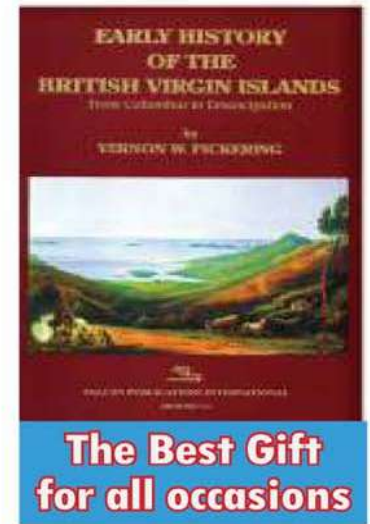
Icon of the Seas is RCI's first ship powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG). It can carry 2,350 crew and 5,620 guests. [Nassau Guardian]

CAYMAN ISLANDS - A number of emails have been circulating in the public domain which falsely appear to be signed by former Commissioner of Police Derek Byrne, according to police.

RCIPS's Digital Forensic Hub issued a press release stating that the sender claims to be experiencing banking issues and provides an attachment for more information.

An email seeking payment for alleged traffic violations has been making the rounds and the Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing is warning members of the public not to open or respond to the messages.

According to a statement from the department, the



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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
fraudulent emails are being sent to customers which are not "created, authorised or distributed by" the DVDL. [Cayman Compass]

ST. VINCENT - The Ministry of Health in St. Vincent and the Grenadines has issued an advisory, urging both residents and visitors to take proactive measures in safeguarding themselves against an array of infectious diseases.

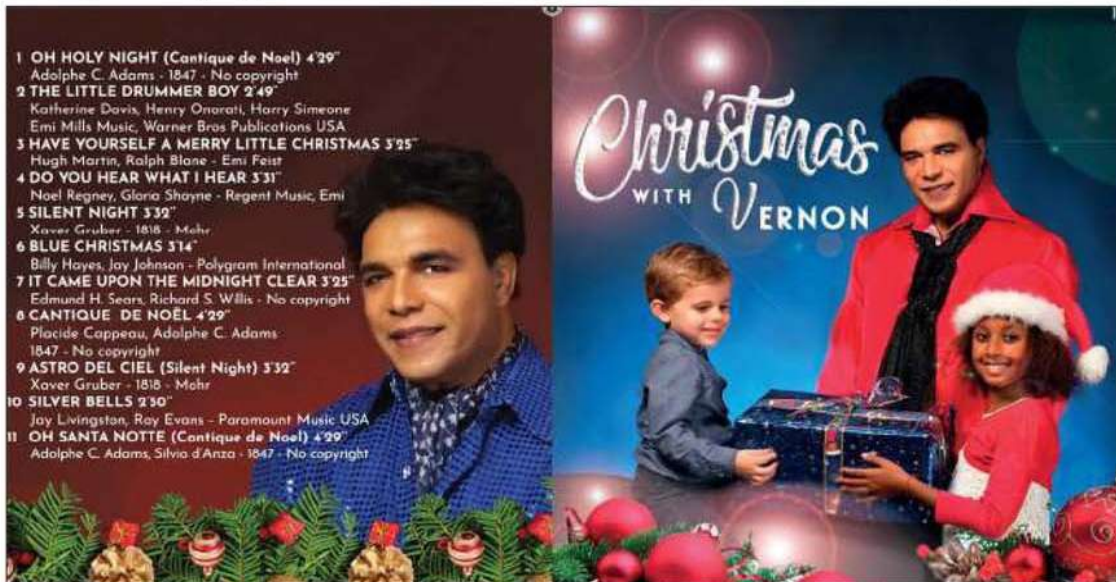
This alert encompasses the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, dengue fever, leptospirosis, and a resurgence of Influenza A - H1N1, known as the swine flu.

Between December 25th of last year and January 6th of this year, a palpable surge in Influenza A - H1N1 cases has set off alarm bells within the healthcare system.

As of January 6, the tally of confirmed SARS-COV2 cases in St. Vincent and the Grenadines has reached a total of 9,804 cases since the initial outbreak in 2021.

The Ministry of Health's advisory also highlighted the prevalence of other infectious diseases in the region.

In 2023, St. Vincent and the Grenadines recorded 17 cases of dengue fever, emphasizing the continued importance of vigilance in combating this mosquito-borne illness. [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 3'39"
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 NOEL 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, Silvia d'Anza - 1847 - No copyright

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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



New Jost Van Dyke Primary School Building officially opened

((Photo credit: F. Skerritt))(More on pages 10)

	PAGE 14 Rhonda Victor-Pinnock emerged as the crowned jewel of the WINBVI Mrs. BVI Coronation	PAGE 15 . Ladyburd Talks . Ladyburd Mail Box . Lightbulb Moments . Poetry Corner . Tickle My Funny Bones . Pun Intended	PAGE 16 Female Captains Invited Onboard Celebrity Ascent
			PAGE 17 Divas On A Dime

RHONDA VICTOR-PINNOCK EMERGED AS THE CROWNED JEWEL OF THE WINBVI MRS. BVI CORONATION



Amidst an atmosphere of elegance and anticipation, Rhonda Victor-Pinnock emerged as the crowned jewel of the WINBVI Mrs. BVI Coronation, held on the evening of 20 January, at Captain Mulligan's Event Centre in Nanny Cay. With grace and poise, she claimed the coveted title of Mrs. BVI for the year 2024/25, beginning a new chapter in her life. Sharing the limelight were Surbhi Wil-

liams, who was honored as Mrs. Classique 2024-2025, and Armoy James-Ibechem, who assumed the title of Mrs. Curve 2024-2025. Together, these remarkable women added to the event's allure, embodying charm and charisma. Under the thematic banner "Sapphire Soiree - A Decade of Impact," the coronation celebrated the profound and lasting influence that the Mrs. BVI titleholders

have had on their community throughout the years. Distinguished guests in attendance included Premier Dr. the Honorable Natalio Wheatley, and Minister for Health and Social Development Hon. Vincent Wheatley. Their presence lent prestige to the occasion, underscoring its significance within the BVI community.



Ladyburd Talks...

Dear Readers: This year:

Make Time for Self-Care

If you feel like you have tons of commitments that aren't always for you, carve out some solid "me" time in the year ahead by trying a new hobby—or resurrecting an old one—such as cooking, making art, or reading a good book.

Better Your Budgeting:

While coming up with a budget isn't necessarily the most fun thing to do (unless you're a numbers person), not knowing where your cash has gone and being unable to cover your monthly expenses is even less so. Budgeting for social gatherings and incidentals (unexpected dinners out, new clothes, means you won't have to change old habits too much.

Declutter Your Space:

A clean home is a happy home. Quell anxiety and stress by tidying up and decluttering everything around you. Tackle the refrigerator, cabinets, messy drawers, desks, and closets. Toss everything you haven't used in six months, donate what you don't love or need, and get ready to celebrate the new year with new clarity and peace of mind.

Manage Stress:

If left unchecked, stress and anxiety can go unnoticed for some time, and later manifest themselves in physical and emotional ways. Instead of waiting for them to rear their ugly heads, learn stress management and reduction techniques now. Some meditate, others practice yoga, and many exercise to combat stress.



LIGHT BULB MOMENTS

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."

— *Maya Angelou*

"If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one!"

— *Dolly Parton*

"Whatever you think the world is withholding from you, you are withholding from the world."

— *Eckhart Tolle*

Poetry Corner

See It Through

When you're up against a trouble,
Meet it squarely, face to face;
Lift your chin and set your shoulders,
Plant your feet and take a brace.

When it's vain to try to dodge it,
Do the best that you can do;
You may fail, but you may conquer,
See it through!

Black may be the clouds about you
And your future may seem grim,
But don't let your nerve desert you;
Keep yourself in fighting trim.
If the worst is bound to happen,
Spite of all that you can do,
Running from it will not save you,
See it through!

Even hope may seem but futile,
When with troubles you're beset,
But remember you are facing
Just what other men have met.
You may fail, but fall still fighting;
Don't give up, whate'er you do;
Eyes front, head high to the finish.
See it through!

© Edgar A. Guest

Tickle My Funny Bones



FLOOD

In the worst rainstorm of the century, a kid calls a hotline to report flooding.

"Help me!" the kid exclaims.

"I'm standing in two feet of water!"

"Now stay calm,"

the person answering the hotline replies.

"Two feet of water does not constitute a flood emergency around here."

"It does around here!" says the kid.

"I'm calling from the fourth floor!"

Hiccup?

A guy goes to the doctor,

"Do you have something against a persistent hiccup?"

The doctor gives him a huge slap in the face and says, "Yes. Sorry. This is the best treatment."

The guy holds his cheek and says, "OK, it's actually my wife who has the issue!"

What Was That?

A student at a management school came up to a pretty girl and hugged her without any warning.

The surprised girl said,

"What was that?"

The guy smiled at her,

"Direct marketing!"

The girl slapped him soundly.

"What was that?!"

said the boy, holding his cheek.

"Customer feedback."

More funny jokes: <https://short-funny.com/>

PUN INTENDED

"Know any good rope jokes?
I'm a frayed knot."

Ladyburd's Mail Box



EMAIL ADDRESS:

delseitaliburd@msn.com

or

islandsunnewsp@gmail.com

Dear Ladyburd: I am writing you this letter with tears in my eyes. I have a 9 year old son, and his mother and I are separated a few years now, (we were not married) I am involved with someone else I am quite happy the way things are with my relationship with this other person. Every month I give my child's mother money for his food, school stuff etc. My Problem is this woman do not want the child to spend any time with me, and Ladyburd, that is not right, she is trying to spite me and is hurting the child and I am going to take this to the authorities, if she do not do better. This woman revels in quarrelling, and I am not into that. **Being Unfair.**

Ladyburd: Dear Being Unfair: That is the problem with some women. When they have it good, they do not know it. Just imagine you are supporting your child, and she accepts your money with open arms, but she does not want you to see your child. That ofcourse cannot be right, she should be happy that you are the type of father who cares about your child.

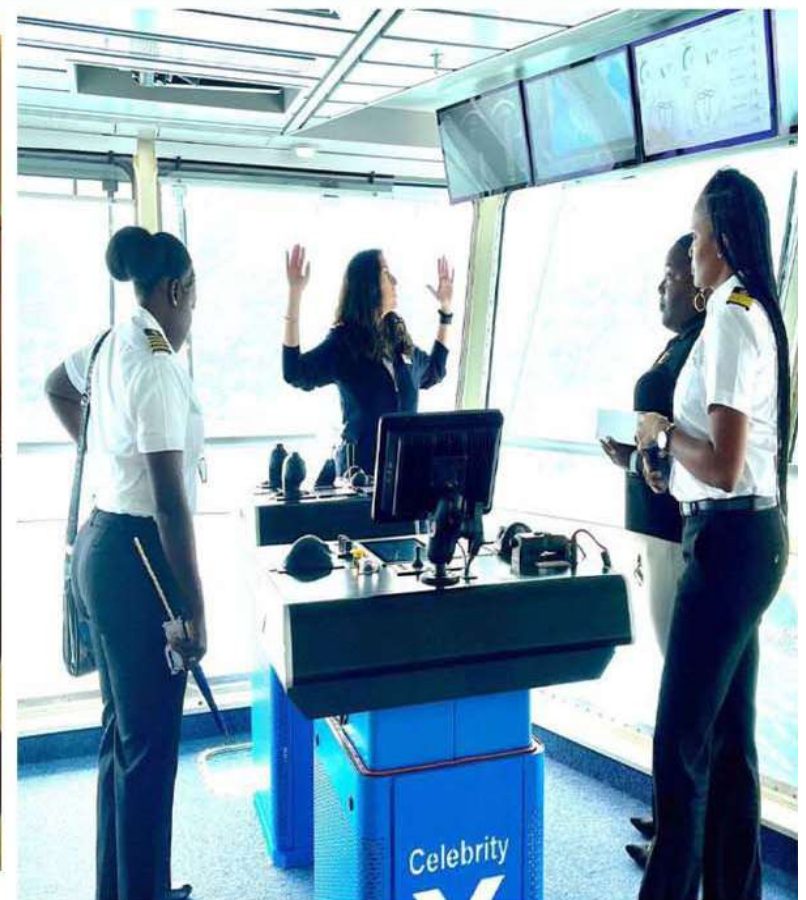
If you know her mother or any relatives of hers, who you can dialog with, you should be able to talk to them and ask them to speak with her (your child's mother), and let her know the importance of a relationship with your child, because to deny you, that will have long term effect on your child. (This is not the first time I am getting letters like yours, so it is an on-going problem

(Repeat)

FEMALE CAPTAINS INVITED ONBOARD CELEBRITY ASCENT



Ascent L-R Jonese Samuel, Staff Captain Maria Gotor, D'Andra Lewis, Rochelle Lawrence, Chief Officer Eva Pavlou



Celebrity Ascent Bridge Tour

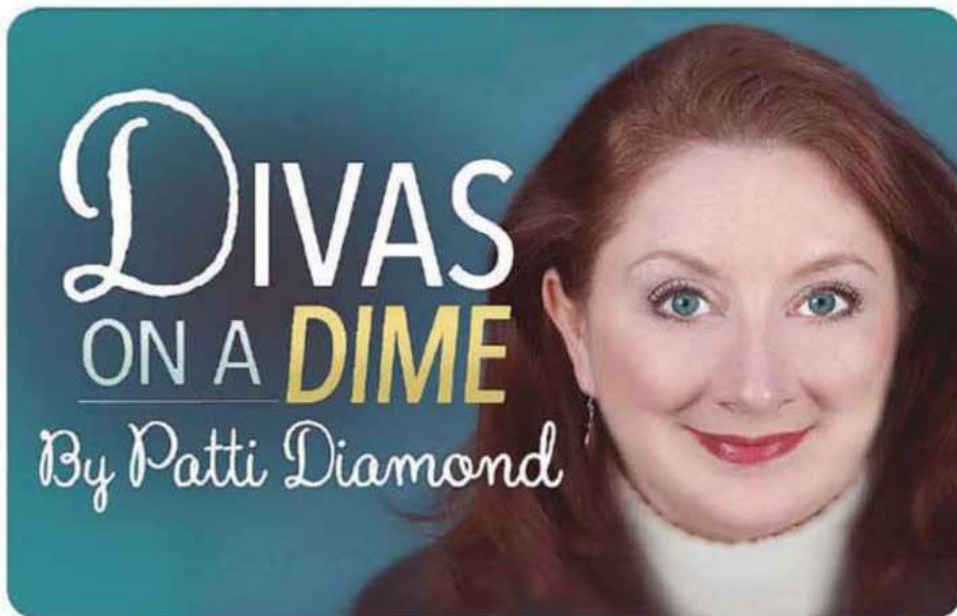


Ascent Bridge Tour L-R Eva Pavlou, Jonese Samuel, Rochelle Lawrence, D'Andra Lewis

The British Virgin Islands Ports Authority (BVIPA) is delighted to celebrate local Captains Jonese Samuel, D'Andra Lewis, and Rochelle Lawrence. On Wednesday, 17th January 2024, the three captains were invited onboard Celebrity Ascent by Staff Captain Maria Gotor for lunch and a ship tour while it was at the Cruise Pier.

The luncheon provided a platform for the BVI captains and Staff Captain Maria Gotor and Chief Officer Eva Pavlou to share inspirational stories and insights. The cross-cultural exchange of maritime knowledge and experiences highlighted parallels in their professional journeys, and the need for equal treatment and representation in the maritime industry. This shared camaraderie not only enriched the luncheon but also contributed to a collective narrative of female excellence in maritime. The subsequent tour of the bridge allowed the captains to explore the intricate navigation systems, cutting-edge technology, and operational facets of the bridge, and gain a firsthand understanding of the maritime innovations employed by Celebrity Ascent.

Photo Credit: British Virgin Islands Ports Authority



Easy Pork Carnitas a Cinco de Mayo Classic

Melt-in-your-mouth, flavorful and juicy with irresistible caramelized crunchy bits, carnitas means "little meats" in Spanish. If you like carnitas brimming with classic flavors like Mexican oregano, cumin, chili powder and a surprising bright note of citrus, you're going to love this divine recipe, just in time for Cinco de Mayo.

This recipe yields restaurant-quality pork carnitas at a fraction of restaurant costs. It uses historically inexpensive cuts of heavily marbled pork that are slow cooked for hours until the meat is completely tender. After cooking, it falls apart and practically shreds itself. Before serving, the meat is broiled to make those signature delicious crispy bits.

Carnitas can be the star of your Cinco de Mayo festivities, but don't wait for a party, they make any day a celebration. Carnitas are equally at home in your nacho platter, a build-your-own taco or burrito bar, or served simply with a fork, corn tortillas, salsa and lots of napkins.



Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com

Serve up restaurant-quality pork carnitas at a fraction of the cost.

Choosing the right cut of pork is essential for the tender, juicy quality we're looking for. This recipe doesn't work with lean meats, so no lean pork loin, and please don't try this with chicken breast!

You'll want pork shoulder or pork butt, with or without bone. Incidentally, they're the exact same cut of meat from the shoulder of the pig. The name "butt" comes from Colonial America, when butchers in the Boston area would pack the pork shoulder in barrels they called "butts."

Lastly, this recipe calls for Mexican oregano, which is entirely different from regular Mediterranean oregano. Mexican oregano is earthy and grassy with citrus notes and is related to lemon verbena. Mediterranean oregano is subtle and related to the mint family. You can find Mexican oregano in the ethnic spice section of the grocery store, usually for under a dollar.

SLOW COOKER PORK CARNITAS

Yield: 6 to 8 servings **Prep:** 10 minutes **Cook:** 4 hours

What You'll Need:

- 4 pounds pork shoulder (also known as "pork butt")
- 1 lime -- juice and zest
- 1/2 orange -- juice and zest
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon dried Mexican oregano
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

1. Cut the pork shoulder into big chunks, about 4-inches cubed, and place in the slow cooker. Add the zest and juice of the lime and half an orange, and stir to coat the meat in the liquid.
2. In a small bowl, mix the cumin, oregano, salt, chili powder, garlic powder, onion powder and black pepper. Sprinkle the seasoning evenly over the meat, stirring until the meat is well-coated.
3. Cover and cook on HIGH for 4 hours or LOW for 7-8 hours. Just wait until you can smell this slice of heaven! When it's cooked, using a slotted spoon, remove the pork to a rimmed baking sheet that's been covered in foil or with cooking spray.
4. Pour the liquid from the slow cooker into a small saucepan and boil to reduce until thickened. Pour this lovely liquid over the pork and shred with two forks, coating the meat with the sauce.
5. Turn on the broiler and place the pan o'goodness under the broiler until some of the edges are brown and crispy, about 5 minutes. But keep your eye on it, because burning a pan filled with this amazing stuff would be a crime.

This recipe is so easy, but please don't skip the last step. Caramelizing the meat under the broiler to concentrate the flavors is what takes this dish over the top. Buen Provecho!

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

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POLICE NEWS

ONE PERSON ARRESTED AS MURDER INVESTIGATION CONTINUES

Friday, January 19 – Detectives of the Major Incident Team of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force arrested one person for questioning in connection with the September 3rd, 2023, murder of 25-year-old Azim Yonnas of Butu Mountain. This arrest follows an extensive investigation spanning just over three months.

Initial enquiries revealed that Yonnas was in the

Long Bush area when he was pursued by two armed, masked individuals and was fatally shot.

While the investigation remains ongoing, the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force assures the public that exhaustive efforts are being made to collect all necessary evidence and ensure a comprehensive and fair legal process. Recognizing the importance of transparency, updates will be provided

as they become available, while upholding the integrity of the investigation.

Persons who can assist police with information regarding this incident can confidentially call the Crime Stoppers line 800-8477 (TIPS) or overseas call 1-284-800-8477 with the relevant information; or contact the RVIPF Intelligence Unit at 368-9339.

ADDITIONAL MALE CHARGED IN PIER PARK ROBBERY

Saturday, January 20 – The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force has charged one additional male in relation to the armed robbery at House of Luxury Jewelry Store at Tortola Pier Park in July 2023.

Vernon Bernard, 32, of Manuel Reef, was charged with Robbery, Handling Stolen Goods, and Possession of the Proceeds of Criminal Conduct. He will appear before the Magistrate’s Court at

the next available sitting.

In July of 2023, the RVIPF responded to reports of an armed robbery at Tortola Pier Park, where two masked men dressed in white entered a prominent business and made off with Jewelry from the showcase. The masked bandits then fired shots into the air while they made their escape; however, no injuries were reported.

The RVIPF remains dedicated

to solving this case and bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Anyone who may have witnessed the robbery and can provide any information, no matter how insignificant it may seem, is asked to contact the RVIPF Intelligence Unit at 368-9339.

Alternatively, persons can give this information anonymously to Crimestoppers at 800-8477

MULTIPLE ARRESTS MADE FOLLOWING ARMED ROBBERY INVESTIGATION

Wednesday, January 24 – Officers of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force executed a search warrant on a private premises on Virgin Gorda on Friday, January 19 after investigations into a reported armed robbery.

Bob George, 56, Bakembe George, 32, Gabriella Vidalis George, 29, and a 17-year-old male, all of The Valley, Virgin Gorda, were charged with Unlawful Possession of

Cannabis with

Intent to supply. They were granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate’s Court in March 2024. Investigation into the Robbery is ongoing. Royal Virgin Islands Police Force Officers are actively pursuing all leads to bring the perpetrators to justice. The commitment of the RVIPF to maintaining the safety and security of the community

remains unwavering, and updates on the investigation will be provided as they become available.

Persons who can assist police with any information regarding the robbery can confidentially call the Crime Stoppers line at 800-8477 (TIPS) or overseas at 1-284-800-8477 with the relevant information or contact the RVIPF Intelligence Unit at 368-9339.

STOP AND SEARCHED ENDED WITH TWO ARRESTS

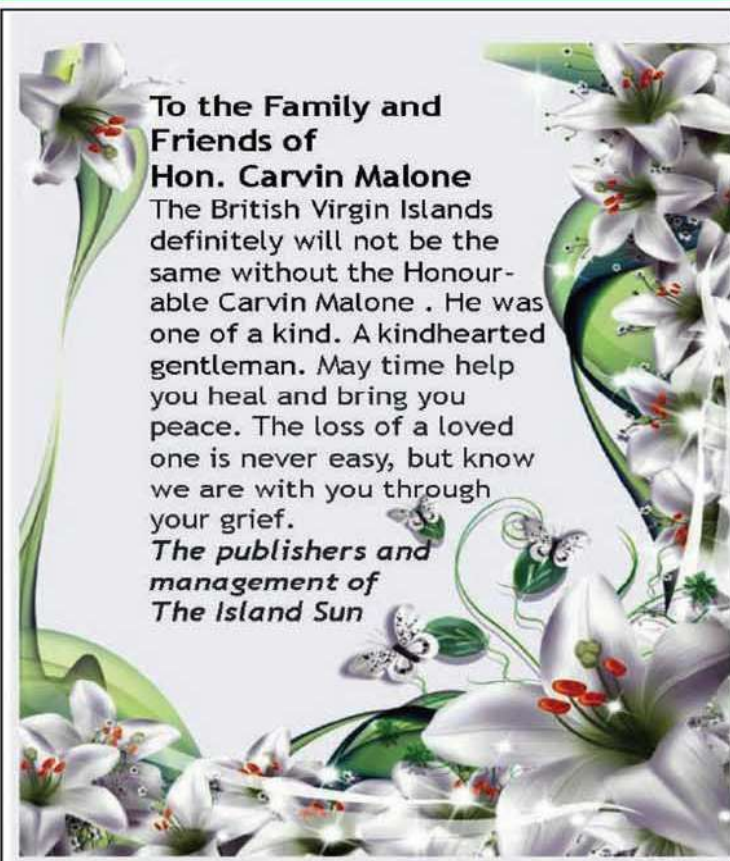
Tuesday, January 23 – On Thursday, January 18, 2024, while conducting a stop and search operation on Virgin Gorda, Officers of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force stopped a vehicle containing three male occupants. During the search two firearms; a Rifle and Hand Pistol, multiple rounds of ammunition, and a substantial quantity of drugs believed to be cannabis were found.

Akeem E. Joseph, 37, of St Croix, USVI and Kyreek Gardner, 32, of The Valley, Virgin Gorda were jointly charged with Possession of a Prohibited Firearm, Keeping an Unlicensed

Firearm, two counts of Unlawful Possession of explosives, Unlawful possession of Cannabis and Unlawful possession of Cannabis with Intent to Supply. They remain in custody until the next available sitting at the Magistrate’s Court.

The third occupant escaped on foot and remains at-large. He is described as 5 ft tall, dark skin complexion, with plaited hair. At the time of his escape, he was wearing a red top, blue jeans, and a gold chain.

Persons who can assist police with information regarding this incident or the identity of the escapee can confidentially call the Crime Stoppers line at 800-8477 (TIPS) or overseas at 1-284- 800-8477 with the relevant information or contact the RVIPF Intelligence Unit at 368-9339.



To the Family and Friends of Hon. Carvin Malone
 The British Virgin Islands definitely will not be the same without the Honourable Carvin Malone . He was one of a kind. A kindhearted gentleman. May time help you heal and bring you peace. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know we are with you through your grief.
The publishers and management of The Island Sun

STATE-BACKED RUSSIAN HACKERS ACCESSED SENIOR MICROSOFT LEADERS' EMAILS, COMPANY SAYS

BOSTON — State-backed Russian hackers broke into Microsoft's corporate email system and accessed the accounts of members of the company's leadership team, as well as those of employees on its cybersecurity and legal teams, the company said Friday.

In a blog post, Microsoft said the intrusion began in late November and was discovered on Jan. 12. It said the same highly skilled Russian hacking team behind the SolarWinds breach was responsible.

"A very small percentage" of Microsoft corporate accounts were accessed, the company said, and some emails and attached documents were stolen.

The White House is warning companies that Russia could be planning to launch cyberattacks against critical U.S. infrastructure.

The U.S. has previously warned about the Russian government's capabilities to digitally attack U.S. companies, but President Biden reiterated the message on Monday, saying in a statement that "evolving intelligence" showed Russia is "exploring options for potential cyberattacks."

The potential attacks would be in response to U.S. sanctions against Russia over its invasion of Ukraine, the White House said.

Deputy National Security Adviser for Cyber and Emerging Technology Anne Neuberger called for companies to secure their systems, including implementing multifactor authentication, patching systems against known vulnerabilities, backing up data, running drills and engaging with federal authorities before a cyberattack happens.

The Microsoft disclosure comes a month after a new U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rule took effect that compels publicly traded companies to disclose breaches that could negatively impact their business. It gives them four days to do so unless they obtain a national-security waiver.

The Microsoft disclosure comes a month after a new U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rule took effect that compels publicly traded companies to disclose breaches that could negatively impact their business. It gives them four days to do so unless they obtain a national-security waiver. Microsoft, which is

based in Redmond, Washington, said the hackers from Russia's SVR foreign intelligence agency were able to gain access by compromising credentials on a "legacy" test account, suggesting it had outdated code. After gaining a foothold, they used the account's permissions

to access the accounts of the senior leadership team and others. The brute-force attack technique used by the hackers is called "password spraying."

In a 2021 blog post, Microsoft called the SolarWinds hacking campaign "the most sophisticated nation-state attack in history." In addition to U.S. government agencies, including the departments of Justice and Treasury, more than 100 private companies and think tanks were compromised, including software and



telecommunications providers.

The main focus of the SVR is intelligence-gathering. It primarily targets governments, diplomats, think tanks and IT service providers in the U.S. and Europe.

In another hackers criminal activity, in Iran-linked hacking group is "actively targeting and compromising" multiple U.S. facilities for using an Israeli-made computer system, U.S. cybersecurity officials say.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) said on Friday that the hackers, known as "CyberAv3ngers," have been infiltrating video screens with the message "You have been hacked, down with Israel. Every equipment 'made in Israel' is CyberAv3ngers legal target."

The cyberattacks have spanned multiple states, CISA said. While the equipment in question, "Unitronics Vision Series programmable logic controllers," is predominately used in water and wastewater systems, companies in energy, food and beverage manufacturing, and health care are also under threat.

"These compromised devices were publicly exposed to the internet with default passwords," CISA said.

The agency did not specify how many organizations have been hacked, but on Friday CNN reported that "less than 10" water facilities around the U.S. had been affected.



COMMENTARY

Capital and Governance

By Dickson Igwe



Dickson Igwe

January 18, 2024

The quality of a country's capital: the various combinations of both private and public capital, decides quality of life, standard of living, and wellbeing. Capital Mix: wealth generating assets and resources, from land and technology, to enterprise and human resources, decides the level of national prosperity.

Good governance is synonymous with a capital mix that drives up prosperity and wellbeing: the public or national good.

If we look at countries that underperform, overwhelmingly, it is down to their poor governance. Governance is an octopus with tentacles that affect every area of national life. Poor governance results in a capital mix that fails to deliver.

Now, leadership is top down, and even though the values and cultures

held by a population are factors in deciding the quality of leadership, poor governance will destroy a country's culture. Countries get the governments they deserve, yes. However, like a fish, where the rot starts at the head, poor leadership delivers mass misery.

In Africa, a continent blessed with vast and abundant natural resources, poor governance is a synonym for unethical cultures. Poor governance has been a top down affair corrupting everything and inflicting war, underdevelopment, and poverty, on hundreds of millions of people.

Countries may have abundant natural and human resources, like Nigeria, Venezuela, and much of Africa. However, no matter the abundance of natural wealth, poor and dishonest governance has placed these lands at a disadvantage, keeping them in poverty, under-development, and conflict.

Countries with far less natural wealth possess a higher quality of life and standard of living owing to the fact of honest, progressive, and thoughtful governance. The governing culture of a country appears to have a more lasting effect

on prosperity and welfare than the gold, silver, copper, aluminum, and uranium, sitting under the earth.

The modern Caribbean is a tourism haven, but limited in natural resources unlike many an African nation with oil, gas, minerals, and arable land. The Caribbean owes any positive economic growth and social development to the fact that most islands possess a reasonable degree of honest governance.

That is, honest governance, relative to countries in Africa and Latin America. Honest and good governance, results in a capital mix in the Caribbean of a relatively sustainable-social and economic-infrastructure. Much of the Caribbean would have resembled Haiti or Venezuela had it not been for governance that has adopted a degree of honesty.

Consequently, the islands – including overseas territories of the USA, UK, France, and the Netherlands – are safe for tourism and offshore administrative and financial services: key revenue earners.

Then, much of the Caribbean – possesses adequate power and water supply, and a connecting road network that borders coastlines, and links

with hubs and towns, inland. Again, this is the consequence of sustainable public investment; public cash that has not ended up in Swiss Accounts, as is the case with too many naturally wealthy but corrupt and undeveloped economies.

There remains much to be improved, but Caribbean roads beat regions of the world where potholes become craters, and collapsed bridges left in disrepair for many months, even, years. A drive through a land where corruption is rife will be a shock to anyone living in a safe, sustainable, and stable country with good governance.

A Caribbean Island nation such as Haiti, can blame poor governance for driving a capital mix that has

resulted in poverty crime, and underdevelopment, especially in recent decades.

Today, the Virgin Islands is going through the trauma of a Commission of Inquiry and its aftermath. That exercise aims at strengthening its governance. Getting governance right will be more of an influence on long-term prosperity than the natural beauty and majestic geography of the islands.

A country can be beautiful and endowed with natural wealth but remain poor, and under-developed, if governance is poor. Conversely, a country with limited natural wealth will prosper if it possesses good governance.

Dickson Igwe

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Caribbean News / Regional News

CARICOM Message: International Day of Education, 2024 “Learning for Lasting Peace”



Mr Davion Leslie, Programme Manager, Human Resource Development, CARICOM Secretariat

that the CARICOM Secretariat acknowledges the importance of the theme for International Day of Education, 2024 – “Learning for lasting peace.” Indeed, if it is true that peace begins at home, then certainly it is strengthened at school.

Our education system is an important partner in the development and preservation of a peaceful society. At the macro level, schools support the peace effort when they prepare students to function as well-adjusted members of society, productive and creative members of the workforce and thoughtful and conscientious citizens. However, beyond this, the role schools play in equipping students with the skills to negotiate compromise, manage their emotions, communicate effectively and to critically assess shifting situations and make sound judgements is at the foundation of any peace-building initiative and is the core of the “learning for peace” agenda.

So, today, even as we entreat all members of society to strive and yearn for peace, we acknowledge the important role that teachers and school administrators play in ensuring that this is indeed a reality within the Community. We commend UNICEF for choosing to use the day to spotlight this highly relevant issue and to draw attention to the role that learning plays in reducing personal conflicts and contributing to the wider peace agenda.

Climate change, growing youth unemployment, conflicts and discrimination are driving migration and creating tensions within and between societies. At the same time, widening income inequality, among other issues, puts the social contract under pressure and creates gaps in the intergenerational solidarity needed to maintain a peaceful and orderly society. While the CARICOM Region has historically been a zone of peace, this must not be taken for granted, and all efforts to preserve this must be celebrated.

It is against this background

(CARICOM Secretariat, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana - Tuesday, 23 January 2024) - International Day of Education (24 January) highlights education as a human right, a public good and a public responsibility. In this blog, Davion Leslie, Programme Manager, Human Resource Development, CARICOM Secretariat, illustrates the critical need to use education as a tool for promoting peace in our Region.

The world is in the midst of multiple complex transitions as demographic, economic and social factors converge to create uncertainties about the future.

CTO CELEBRATES 35 YEARS, ANNOUNCES 2024 THEME

BARBADOS (January 22, 2024) – Secretary-General of the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) Dona Regis-Prosper has welcomed 2024 by recognizing January as the organization’s 35th

anniversary and inviting regional tourism stakeholders to join the CTO in a yearlong journey of celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures, landscapes and experiences that define the Caribbean.

Introducing the CTO’s theme for this year, “Connecting the Globe, Celebrating Diversity”, Regis-Prosper explained that it underscores the CTO’s commitment to inclusivity, cultural exchange, and



sustainable tourism practices. “This is a call to embrace the uniqueness of each destination while recognizing the shared thread that binds us together as one vibrant and diverse Caribbean family,” she stated.

The Secretary-General reflected on the resilience and recovery of the Caribbean tourism sector in 2023, acknowledging the challenges faced and the collective strength demonstrated. “Our Caribbean tourism sector demonstrated remarkable strength and adaptability in the face of challenges and uncertainties,” she noted, adding, “We persevered, worked together, and welcomed visitors back to our beautiful destinations.”

Regis-Prosper highlighted the successful reintroduction of hallmark CTO events, including Caribbean Week in New York and the State of the Tourism Industry Conference (SOTIC), and the revitalization of tourism offerings in the region, “ensuring the safety and satisfaction of all who chose to experience the magic of the Caribbean.”

The Secretary-General also

noted the strides made by members in sustainable tourism, and the CTO’s ongoing focus on effective communication. She emphasized the critical role of research in reimagining Caribbean tourism and positioning the CTO as a leading research authority in the field.

She underscored the importance of the region hosting the 2024 ICC Men’s T20 World Cup in June, describing the tournament as an opportunity to showcase the region’s hospitality, cultural richness, and sporting prowess to the global community.

The tourism executive invited stakeholders to join the CTO in its endeavors to promote the region, expressing eagerness to engage with industry officials at upcoming CTO events such as the Caribbean Conference on Sustainable Tourism Development, April 22-24, 2024, in Grenada.

The 25-member intergovernmental organization’s priorities for the new year include sustainable tourism, membership services, communication and market engagement, research, and the revitalization of the CTO.

VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS VOA NEWS

US Congressional Delegation Travels to Taiwan After Island's Election



FILE - Rep. Ami Bera, D-Calif., on Capitol Hill on March 10, 2021, in Washington. The co-chairs of the U.S. Congressional Taiwan caucus began a visit to Taipei, Jan. 24, 2024

TAIPEI, TAIWAN — The co-chairs of the U.S. Congressional Taiwan Caucus on Wednesday opened the first trip by U.S. lawmakers to the island where the independence-leaning Democratic Progressive Party won a third straight term in presidential elections this month.

U.S. Reps. Ami Bera, a Democrat from California, and Florida Republican Mario Díaz-Balart plan to “engage with senior officials and business leaders,” Bera’s office said in a statement, without naming those with whom they would meet.

“The aim of the trip is to reaffirm U.S. support for Taiwan following their successful democratic elections, express solidarity in their shared commitment to democratic values, and explore opportunities to further strengthen the robust economic and defense relationship between the United States and Taiwan,”

the statement said.

China, America’s chief competitor for global influence, claims Taiwan as its own territory and threatens to use force to bring it under its control. Beijing strongly condemned the election of current Vice President Lai Ching-te as Taiwan’s leader and appears set to continue its policy of refusing to engage with the island’s government first set down following the election of the DPP’s Tsai Ing-wen in 2016.

Beijing objects to any form of official contact between the U.S. and Taiwan and responded to a 2022 visit by then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi with some of its largest military maneuvers in years, including missile launches and a simulated blockade of the island. It views visits by foreign government officials as them recognizing the island’s sovereignty.

President Joe Biden has sought to calm that complaint, insisting there’s

no change in America’s longstanding “one-China policy,” which recognizes Beijing but allows informal relations and defense ties with Taipei.

Washington cut formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan in 1979 in order to recognize China, but U.S. law requires it to ensure the island has the means to defend itself and to treat all outside threats as a matter of grave concern.

While China regularly sends warplanes and navy ships to intimidate and harass Taiwan, there was no discernible spike in activity on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Defense Ministry reported seven Chinese warplanes and five naval vessels had been detected near the island over the previous 24 hours. It also said two Chinese balloons flew over the island’s northern and southern regions. The nature of the balloons remains unclear.

UN Calls on Hong Kong to Drop Case Against Publisher Jimmy Lai



As Hong Kong’s official legal year began Monday, the city’s chief justice, Andrew Cheung, used the opportunity to stress how the judiciary takes its duty seriously.

The courts will not “blindly convict” anyone and will respect fundamental rights in national security cases, Cheung said at the official ceremony, adding that the justice system will also not bow to pressure.

“Threats of sanction or reprisal against judges for simply discharging their judicial duties are, therefore, repugnant to the rule of law and fundamentally objectionable,” said Cheung.

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SPORTS



Jah'Kyla Morton clears highest height ever on BVI soil

By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

TRACK & FIELD

National High Jump record holder Jah'Kyla Morton, scaled the bar at 1.68m (5'6¼") for the highest clearance ever on BVI soil, during Saturday morning's session of the 2nd Dag Samuels Development Series.

During the afternoon session, Tiondre Frett became the territory's first qualifier for the 51st Carifta Games in St. George's Grenada, March 30-April 1.

Morton, who won NACAC U18 Championships silver last year with a meet and national record leap of 1.74m (5'8½") after winning Carifta Games U17 silver and a bronze in 2022, narrowly missed the bar at 1.71m (5'7¼") on her final attempt.

"I was a bit disappointed. I had one aim today and that was to qualify (for Carifta Games)," Morton told Island Sun Sports of the 1.70m (5'7") qualifying mark. "Last year, I also qualified on this date. My first two attempts at 1.71 were

the best ones but on the last one, I came down on the bar. But it's motivating. I'm still young. I'm developing, so I have to train hard to jump higher."

Her Coach Carl Barrett said Morton had a much improved performance, based on the work she's put in. During the first meet two weeks ago, she cleared 1.60m (5'3"). While it's January, last year she cleared 1.50m+.

"Based on projections and Carifta being at the end of March, we're at 1.68 now. Last year, a couple weeks before Carifta, we jumped 1.67," Barrett recalled. "Knowing this is the best jump on local soil, it shows that the work is going well."

Of the 1.71 effort, he said that she didn't arch her back and the bar came down. "Her glutes touched the bar," Barrett said, noting he thought she had cleared the height. "I guess she hit it a little too hard, so on the way down after she fell, the bar came off."

Barrett said his young charge is focused in training and knows what the goals are.

Competing in the afternoon session, Morton ran 15.73 seconds to win the 100m Hurdles.

"During practice this week, I wasn't clearing the first two (hurdles) at least. I would throw

down the second hurdle because I was overthinking," she said. "When I ran through all 10, I felt good even though the time was very horrible, I feel for the first meet, it's progress."

A further reflection on the High Jump after the hurdles, Morton said that she was feeling great and can't wait until the next meet where she'll seek to clear the 1.70m qualifying mark. "My coach told me that we have to work on that specific part of the run up and try to have more consistency on my run up," she noted about helping her to arch better while clearing the bar. "I have to watch YouTube videos on arching."

With the exception of two coaches, two other athletes and officials, there were no fans witnessing her performance during the morning session—the only event on the schedule. "If I get to jump in the afternoon," Morton said. "I feel it would be motivating because people would be cheering me on."

When asked, what would clearing 1.81m and qualifying for the World Jr. Championships in Lima, Peru this summer mean, Morton who never heard of Lima before, said if she qualifies, wouldn't have expected to get there as it wasn't in her consciousness last year.



Coach Carl Barrett, right, instructs Jah'Kyla Morton on her next High Jump attempt

"It would be a great experience like the Commonwealth Youth Games," she said. "I feel that it would be on the same competitive level."

When she opened her season on Jan 6, she high jumped in the morning and two hours later, ran the 400m Hurdles. "The last 100m, I don't know what happened, but my legs locked up," she said.

Meanwhile, in becoming the first Carifta Games qualifier, Frett ran his 100m in 11.14 seconds into a -1.6 meters per second wind. Jahshani Farrington and Jonathan Lynch, Carifta Games 800m finalists in 2023, opened their respective campaigns with a 2:00.40 and 2:01.92 seconds, respectively.

BVI National Surfing Association formed as newest sports body

By Dean "The Sportsman" Greenaway

SURFING

Surfing became the latest organization to elect an executive body, when a British Virgin Islands National Surf Association was formed on January 12. Alec "Woo" Dick-Read who was elected as the first chairman, told Island Sun Sports that the association was formed because there's a small window of opportunity to send surfers to Puerto Rico, in an attempt to qualify for the Paris Olympic Games, this summer.

"The BVI up to now, hasn't had an association that could join into that Olympic pipeline," he noted. "We have some candidates on island who would do really well and we tried to set it up that way so we might squeeze into that window. That's the short-term goal. But the

most important part is setting it up so that youths of the BVI can know that this is a channel that they can use their athletic abilities, go to the Olympic Games and win golds for the BVI."

Dick-Read, who's also association chairman, said he's hoping that by setting up the association, future BVI surfers can win medals in the international sphere.

"The people that win at the moment, the top, top athletes in surfing, they come from places where the waves aren't as good as what we have in the BVI," he said. "So we have potential here to send people. Hopefully with this, this can be a channel where we can enable them."

Dick-Read said that the association not only covers surfing but other board sports including long board surfers, stand up paddle board

surfers. "There are variations on surfing that we want them to be represented and to be able to use this structure for those different variations of the sport that exists," he stated.

He said one of the top priorities is to encourage BVI children to learn to swim. That's the baseline for what they do in surfing and the baseline for so many other activities as well as safety and enjoyment of the BVI. He said that's the underlying philosophy they're built on. The association will be seeking sponsorship and every member who pays the \$10 membership fee, they will get a Red Cross lifesaving certification from courses offered.

"We hope that all our surfers in the BVI will be a network of lifesavers who are there if necessary, if anybody gets in trouble," he said.



Surfing will now have an organization to govern the sport in the BVI

"It's almost like that right now, but if you join the association, hopefully we can find a sponsor to give that small basic instruction."

Joining Dick-Read on the

executive are: Tom Chapman as secretary, Jovan Van Heerden, treasurer, J.C. Pierce, development officer and Bobo Cogswell, athlete's representative.

SPORTS



The ball eludes Positive's Goalkeeper Nicardo Dixon, during Sunday's game with Islanders



Jah'Kyla Morton clears the bar at 1.68m (5'6¼"), the highest height ever cleared on BVI soil



Rebels' Kara Lewis, left, kicks the ball away from VG United's T'Kylah Richardson



Tiondre Frett, 3rd right, ran his U17 Boys 100m in 11.14 seconds to qualify for the Carifta Games



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GREAT RESULTS - LOWER RATES

Why You Must Invest In Gold Today



Gold. Rare, beautiful, and unique. Treasured as a store of value for thousands of years, it is an important and secure asset. It has maintained its long term value, is not directly affected by the economic policies of individual countries and doesn't depend on a 'promise to pay'.

Completely free of credit risk, although it bears a market risk gold has always been a secure refuge in unsettled times. Its safe haven attributes attract wise investors. Gold has proved itself to be an effective way to manage wealth.

For at least 200 years the price of gold has kept pace with inflation. Another important reason to invest in gold is its consistent delivery within a portfolio of assets. Its performance tends to move independently of other investments and of key economic indicators.

Even a small weighting of gold in an investment portfolio can help reduce overall risk.

Most investment portfolios are invested primarily in traditional financial assets such as stocks and bonds. The reason for holding diverse investments is to protect the portfolio against fluctuations in the value of any single asset class.

Portfolios that contain gold are generally more robust and better able to cope with market uncertainties than those that don't. Adding gold to a portfolio introduces an entirely different class of asset.

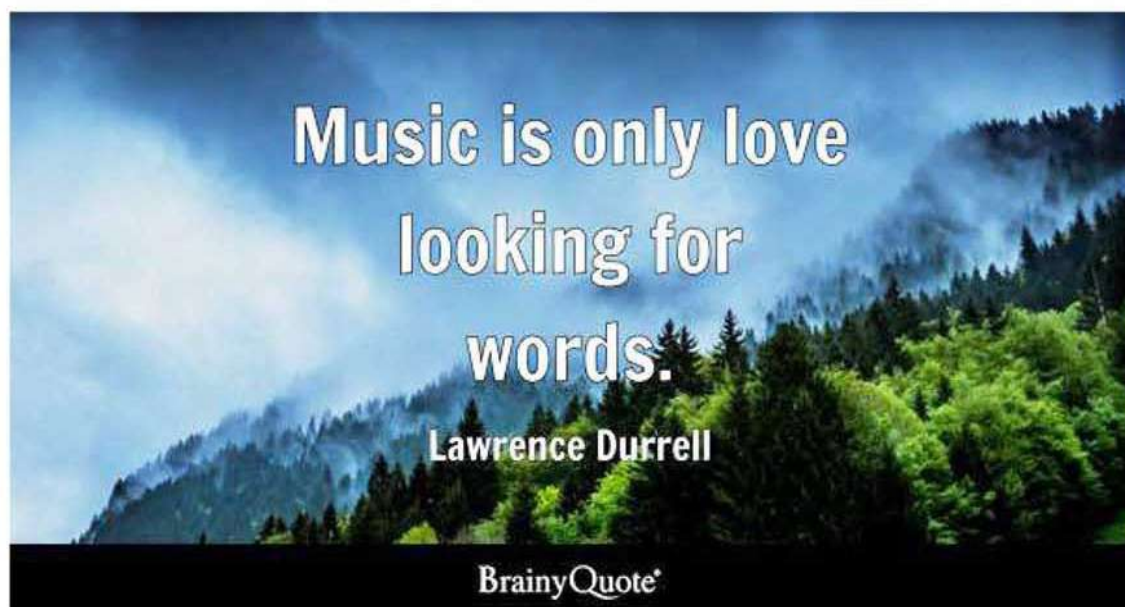
Gold is unusual because it is both a commodity and a monetary asset. It is an 'effective diversifier' because its performance tends to move independently of other investments and key economic indicators.

Studies have shown that traditional diversifiers (such as bonds and alternative assets) often fail during times of market stress or instability. Even a small allocation of gold has been proven to significantly improve the consistency of portfolio performance during both stable and unstable financial periods.

Gold improves the stability and predictability of returns. It is not correlated with other assets because the gold price is not driven by the same factors that drive the performance of other assets. Gold is also significantly less volatile than practically all equity indices.

The value of gold, in terms of real goods and services that it can buy has remained remarkably stable. In contrast, the purchasing power of many currencies has generally declined.

Traditionally, access to the gold market has been through: investment in physical gold, usually as gold coins or small bars, or, for larger quantities, by way of the over the counter market; gold futures and options; gold mining equities, often packaged in gold-oriented mutual funds.



Music is only love
looking for
words.

Lawrence Durrell

BrainyQuote

WHY YOU SHOULD CARE AT ALL ABOUT CHOOSING A BANK

People quite often make decisions impulsively, without considering the consequences. This may work okay in some situations but it could come back to bite you when dealing with financial topics like investments, financing, refinancing, insurance and mortgages. To be a wise investor we should take some time to consider and know more about the place where we are going to deposit our money.

A very wide array of banks exist. Just to name a few that you'll probably recognize; Citizen Bank, Well Fargo Bank, Region Bank, Barclays Bank and Scotia Banks.

Here are some guidelines to consider before choosing a bank:

1. **Location:** While choosing a bank, you must consider the location. If you wish to access your bank account regularly then you should choose a bank located near to your business place or home.

2. **Availability of ATM Machines:** Always choose a bank with a large number of ATM machines close by. Also, regarding the ATM's you should ensure they can provide the following services: a) Do the ATM machines allow you to make deposits? b) Do they give printout statements of transaction made by you? Most do nowadays but some countries may not. c) Can you order more cheques through the ATM?

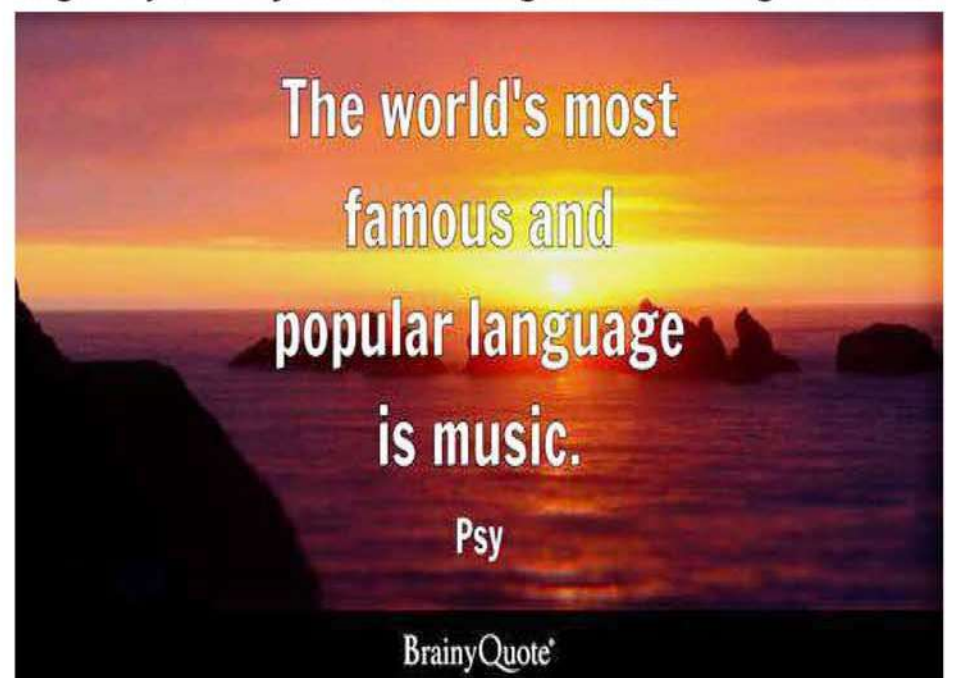
3. **Telephone Banking:** If you are a very busy person and can not go to the bank during banking hours then you should choose a bank, which can provide you with telephone banking services. With telephone banking you can make transactions and check on your account anytime of the day. With the help of telephone banking you can do the following operations:

- a) Transfer money from your account to pay utility bills.
- b) Cancel recent transactions.
- c) Order another cheque book.
- d) Sign up for additional services like loans, credit cards or lines of credit.

5. **Internet Banking:** Internet banking allows you to perform the same services as telephone banking. But here inquiries and transactions can be done via any internet connection through the bank's website. If they have one! So do ask as it's a great convenience when traveling.

If you are searching a bank for small business, here are some guidelines to help you while choosing a bank. 1. Again, consider the location and make sure the bank understands the nature of your business to meet your requirements. For example, if you run a movie rental business that's open till midnight you may want to do late night or very early morning deposits. So in this case ensure the bank has a night deposit box. 2. Find out the transaction fees and don't assume the fees are similar to personal accounts. Banks generally charge businesses way more due to the increase in transactions. 3. Find out the rates for small business loans or lines of credit and the turn around time to secure funding. You may find yourself in a situation where you need an extra few thousand or more to secure better pricing on bulk orders of supplies or something else.

The above list is in no way exhaustive but a place to begin if you are just now looking or considering a switch.





CLUB STAKE! Our artist claims to have included 25 golf clubs in the picture above. How many clubs do you see?

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



TESTING WATERS WORDWISE

WILL you sink or swim in this quiz on water? Let's see. Simply fill blanks to complete statements:

1. If you're in trouble, you're in ___ water.
2. To discourage something is to throw ___ water on it.
3. Niagara and Victoria are water ___.
4. ___ water is a city in Florida.
5. The water ___ is an oxlike animal.
6. Water ___ is a symbol of defeat.
7. Past history is known as water ___.

Time limit: two minutes.

1. Hot 2. Cold 3. Falls 4. Clear 5. Buffalo 6. Loo 7. Over the dam.

CLIPSO FACTO! Bonnie clipped six letters from a magazine: M, E, N, Y and two T's. She turned one letter upside down and arranged the lot to form a number. What number?

She turned M upside down and formed TWENTY.

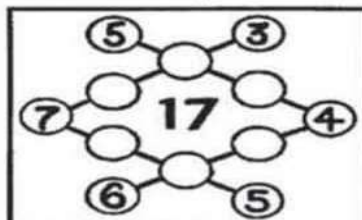
SUM-TE-DUM! Challenge: Place the numbers 1 to 6 in empty circles of the diagram at right so that the sum of each four-number row will be 17. (Numbers presently shown remain in place.)

Remember, all six numbers 1-6 are to be inserted. Duplicates, in rows, of numbers now in place are permitted.

Starter clue: Uppermost and lowermost vacant circles require even-numbered digits.

See if you can puzzle it out.

Top—2, then clockwise 6, 3, 4, 1, 5, will do it.



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

HEY, GOOD FOR YOU! IT'S REFRESHING TO SEE A CUSTOMER LIVING ON THEIR TERMS. FORGET CALORIES OR NUTRITIONAL FACTS.



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The often-skeptical Aries might find that an answer to a question is hard to believe. But check it out before you chuck it out. You might well be surprised at what you could learn.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your resolute determination to stick by a position might make some people uncomfortable. But if you're proved right (as I expect you to be), a lot of changes will tilt in your favor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might feel conflicted between what you want to do and what you should do. Best advice: Honor your obligations first. Then go ahead and enjoy your well-earned rewards.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That financial matter still needs to be sorted out before you can consider any major monetary moves. Pressures ease mid-week, with news about a potential career change.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A workplace problem threatens to derail your well-planned project. But your quick mind should lead you to a solution and get you back on track without too much delay.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An opportunity opens up but could quickly close down if you allow pessimism to override enthusiasm. A trusted friend can offer the encouragement you need.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You've come through a difficult period of helping others deal with their problems. Now you can concentrate on putting your energy to work on your own projects.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Forget about who's to blame and, instead, make the first move toward patching up a misunderstanding before it creates a rift that you'll never be able to cross.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Good news for the travel-loving Sagittarian who enjoys galloping off to new places: That trip you had to put off will soon be back on your schedule.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A mood change could make the gregarious Goat seek the company of just a few friends. But you charge back into the crowd for weekend fun and games.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A decision you made in good faith could come under fire. Best advice: Open your mind to other possibilities by listening to your challenger's point of view.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You can avoid being swamped by all those tasks dangling from your line this week by tackling them one by one, according to priority. The weekend brings good news.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a fine business sense and a love of the arts. You enjoy living life to its fullest.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

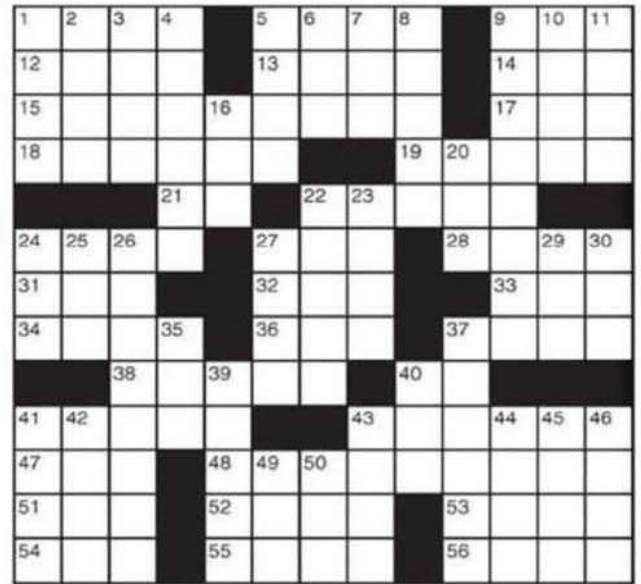
by Jeff Pickering



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Karate level
- 5 Caprice
- 9 Perch
- 12 Writer Wiesel
- 13 Car
- 14 Man-mouse link
- 15 Time between vernal equinoxes
- 17 "Viva - Vegas"
- 18 Wesley of "Blade"
- 19 Striped critter
- 21 Symbol of strength
- 22 Chirp
- 24 Right on the map?
- 27 - chi
- 28 Evening, in an ad
- 31 Duo
- 32 Grass shack
- 33 Feedbag tid-bit
- 34 Big name in scat
- 36 Boom times
- 37 "Mad Money" network
- 38 Beetle Bailey's boss
- 40 Italian river
- 41 "Untrue!"
- 43 "Jurassic Park" bird
- 47 Paris pal



- 7 Call - day abbr.
- 8 Code name?
- 9 Puzzle answer
- 10 Persia, today
- 11 To-do list item
- 16 "Toy Story" dinosaur
- 20 Understanding
- 22 Hosiery shade
- 23 Funny folks
- 24 Paris summer
- 25 Piercing tool
- 26 Start of summer or winter
- 27 Hoodlum
- 29 Bar bill
- 30 List-ending
- 35 Small batteries
- 37 Patients' shares
- 39 Kentucky Derby prize
- 40 Bit of butter
- 41 Houston acronym
- 42 Actor Epps
- 43 Anger
- 44 Marathoner's stat
- 45 Killer whale
- 46 500 sheets
- 49 Eggs
- 50 Allow

DOWN

- 1 Porgy's love
- 2 Carolina college
- 3 Actress Taylor
- 4 Oolong brewer
- 5 Methods
- 6 Shade

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Earring is different; 2. Sleeve is missing; 3. Glasses are missing; 4. Light is missing; 5. Light is shorter; 6. Hair is shorter; 7. Hair is shorter; 8. Hair is shorter; 9. Hair is shorter; 10. Hair is shorter.

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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- 1. Predicting the future by reading the lines on your palms; 2. It varies between Jan. 21-Feb. 20, depending on the lunar calendar; 3. HyperText Transfer Protocol; 4. "Hey Jude"; 5. Patrick; 6. Kenya; 7. Paul Newman and Robert Redford; 8. A spat; 9. The attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941; 10. World War II

Trivia Test Answers



- 1. LANGUAGE: What is the practice of chiromancy?
- 2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is unusual about the date the Chinese New Year is celebrated each year?
- 3. ACRONYMS: What phrase does "http" stand for?
- 4. MUSIC: Which Beatles' song asks listeners to "take a sad song and make it better"?
- 5. TELEVISION: What is the name of SpongeBob Squarepants' best friend in the animated series?
- 6. GEOGRAPHY: Nairobi is the capital of which African country?
- 7. MOVIES: Which two male actors starred in "The Sting" (1973)?
- 8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby oyster called?
- 9. HISTORY: In its planning stages, which World War II attack was coined "Operation Z" by the Japanese?
- 10. LITERATURE: During which war is the novel "All the Light We Cannot See" set?

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.E.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, each column, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ **HOO BOY!**

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HOCLUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOURNE

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Paid (up)
- 6 Tennis star Graf
- 12 False
- 13 Sounded content
- 14 Warm, as left-overs
- 15 Not certain
- 16 Cruise stop
- 17 Farm unit
- 19 Garden of Food Network
- 20 Austen novel
- 22 Perched
- 24 Recede
- 27 Force
- 29 Pleasing
- 32 Symbolic first step toward getting hired
- 35 Cab
- 36 British noble
- 37 Eggy quaff
- 38 Existed
- 40 Squabble
- 42 Past
- 44 Furnace fuel
- 46 Volcanic flow
- 50 Cheered (for)
- 52 Ogled
- 54 Topical anti-septic
- 55 Builds
- 56 Strong points
- 57 "Midnight Cowboy" role



DOWN

- 1 Grieg's "Death"
- 2 Actress Patricia
- 3 Private pupil
- 4 Sch. URL ender
- 5 "Feel-good" brain chemical
- 6 Incline
- 7 Jukebox picks
- 8 Hosp. areas
- 9 Fulfillment
- 10 Office plant
- 11 Notion
- 12 Greek consonant
- 18 Bach's "Coffee"
- 21 1501, in Roman numerals
- 23 Moreover
- 24 Newt
- 25 Large snake
- 26 Ornamental garden trees
- 28 Best-selling Michael Jackson album
- 30 Bill's partner
- 31 Work unit
- 33 Spanish aunt
- 34 Sprite
- 39 Polypium output
- 41 Swift
- 42 Met melody
- 43 Sticky substances
- 45 Praiseful pieces
- 47 Curved lines
- 48 Presidential power
- 49 TV spots
- 51 Dead heat
- 53 Epoch

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E	L	S	F	E	L	S	S
L	E	S	S	L	E	F	S
F	S	S	E	L	S	S	E
S	E	L	S	S	E	F	S
E	F	S	L	S	S	S	E
S	L	S	E	F	S	S	L
S	F	S	L	S	S	E	L
L	E	L	S	S	S	F	S
S	F	S	E	F	S	L	S

Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Q	U	L	M	H	A	C	S	S
G	L	E	T	S	E	N	T	O
D	A	N	E	S	D	A	C	O
V	A	N	T	V	O	C	O	S
S	A	L	E	S	S	S		
O	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z
O	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z
I	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z
I	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z
V	H	S	S	M	V	S	I	X
I	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z
I	O	O	M	V	S	I	X	Z

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Bill Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Which author coined the phrase "green-eyed monster"?
- GEOGRAPHY: How many countries have nations within their borders?
- ACRONYMS: What does RPM stand for?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented in the condition called "nyctophobia"?
- TELEVISION: What is the address of the home on "The Munsters" (1964-66)?
- MATH: How many combinations of U.S. coins would add up to \$1?
- MUSIC: What was the woman's name in the Lynyrd Skynyrd song "Gimme Three Steps"?
- MEASUREMENTS: How many ounces are in 3/4 of a cup?
- MOVIES: Which 1959 movie had the subtitle "A Tale of the Christ"?
- AD-SLOGANS: Which company had the advertising slogan, "Let's go places"?

**MORE READERS:
THE ISLAND SUN**

Trivia Test Answers:
1. William Shakespeare; 2. Two countries; The Vatican in Italy; San Marino also in Italy and Lesotho in South Africa; 3. Revolutions per minute; 4. A fear of being woken up at night; 5. 1/4; 6. Blockhead Lane; 7. 2991; 8. Linda; 9. Ben-Hur; 10. Toyota

ACTION ON CRIMINAL GANGS AND GUNS IS URGENT

By Sir Ronald Sanders

The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States. The views expressed are entirely his own.

The Ecuador, once celebrated for its tranquillity, now finds itself at the epicentre of a distressing surge in gang violence, its streets marred by the ominous shadow of armed groups fuelled by the trafficking of illicit drugs.

On January 7, President Daniel Noboa deployed the nation's armed forces to clean up prisons from which gang leaders were directing their criminal activities. This desperate response came after days of unrest, during which two formidable gang leaders escaped from jail, prison guards were held hostage, and explosive devices wreaked havoc in cities across the country.

These events starkly illustrate a broader crisis, one that extends its menacing grip across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ecuador, nestled between the world's two largest cocaine producers, Colombia and Peru, faces the dire consequences of its geographic vulnerability. The United Nations Global Report on Cocaine 2023 reveals a record surge in cocaine production, with Ecuador serving as a tragic victim of its easily accessible coastal routes.

However, Ecuador's plight is not a solitary narrative; it is a haunting prelude to a region-wide symphony of chaos.

The issue of gangs, guns, and violence cannot be confined within borders. Governments are now awakening to the problem, but it has already spiralled out of control in some nations, while others are teetering on the brink.

The Caribbean, in particular, stands as a sobering example, with four of the five most murderous countries and territories in the region in 2022 being the Turks and Caicos Islands, Jamaica, Venezuela, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Disturbingly, there were no reliable figures for Haiti, leaving a void in understanding the full extent of the crisis which, in any event, is known to be completely unmanageable.

Statistics for the region reveal

a grim reality; eight out of ten countries with the highest homicide rates in the world are located in Latin America and the Caribbean. The average homicide rates, according to 2021 data, stood at 9.3 per 100,000 for South America, 16.9 per 100,000 for Central America, and 12.7 per 100,000 for the Caribbean.

The Caribbean also grapples with a dual challenge: an influx of illicit firearms, primarily sourced from the United States, and a decrease in funding for crucial security initiatives.

The United States, despite being a major source of the region's illicit firearm woes, paradoxically reduced its budget for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative by 11.8% in fiscal year 2022. This initiative provides vital aid for border and port security, a lifeline desperately needed to combat the influx of weapons.

The alarming prevalence of American-made guns in the hands of Caribbean gangs has spurred heads of government to call for stronger U.S. efforts in curbing arms trafficking. In June 2023, Bahamas' Prime Minister, Philip Davis, emphasised to U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris, the urgency of reducing the flow of illegal guns entering his nation from the United States. However, the U.S. account of the meeting made no mention of this serious concern, not because the Biden government is not troubled by gun crimes, but because it is a domestic political issue in the U.S. Hence, not enough is being done to stop the flow of illegal weapons into the Caribbean.

Even as these nations grapple with the inflow of illegal firearms, their capacity to intercept and prevent such activities remains a significant challenge. Ports of entry often lack the necessary interdiction capacity, and limited enforcement resources hinder their ability to curb the tide of arms. The traffickers exploit the short distances between Caribbean islands, utilizing go-fast boats and yachts to move weapons seamlessly across the extensive coastlines.

Efforts to control and combat this phenomenon have been ongoing since the late 1990s. Despite these efforts, gangs continue to proliferate, fuelled by drug traffickers who arm their criminal enterprises.



Founded in 1962

by Carlos and Esme Downing
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Recognizing the urgency and gravity of the situation, during my term as President of the Organization of American States (OAS), I placed the topic of "Guns, gangs, and violence" on the agenda of the Permanent Council.

An expert panel, convened to address the growing crisis, proposed approaches to tackle the root causes and consequences of criminal gang violence, particularly gun-related violence. The resulting Resolution, adopted on December 12, emphasized the necessity for greater collaboration between governmental agencies. It acknowledged that no single state possesses the capacity to match the formidable resources available to organized criminals operating across borders.

The resolution underscored the links between transnational organized crime, criminal gangs, and the vital importance of a cross-border, collaborative approach.

We strongly proposed that the matter be addressed at the upcoming OAS general assembly in June, with the objective of establishing practical systems of collaboration between Latin American nations and Caribbean states. The criminals are organized; if governments and their law enforcement agencies fail to follow suit, the consequences will be more disastrous than they already are. But this alone, while a start, is not enough. Much more needs to be done. At the regional level, collaboration is paramount, as no single state can confront the vast resources of transnational organized crime independently.

At the national level, robust legislation, effective implementation machinery to punish drug traffickers, and prison reforms to prevent them from becoming recruitment centres are imperative. Equally important is raising awareness among communities about the dangers, consequences, and sanctions associated with membership in criminal gangs and the possession and illegal use of firearms.

As the Caribbean confronts this multifaceted crisis, the imperative is clear: collective, resolute action is not just an option but an absolute necessity. The path forward demands a commitment to national, regional and hemispheric action. Gangs, guns and lawlessness now threaten every person - the examples are too many to ignore.



PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Xingxing International Company Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2039669
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 17th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 17th January 2024.
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/1]

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

Celeste Wealth Plan Ltd

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1682759
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 January 18th, 2024. The Liquidator is **Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: January 19th, 2024
(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/2]

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

CLOGHEEN LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2030738
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 18th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 18th January 2024.
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/3]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.

FRAYTON GLOBAL LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2091421
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 January 19, 2024.

Dated: January 22, 2024
(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator [35/4]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.

CREYVORD BUSINESS INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2091426
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 January 19th, 2024
Dated: January 22nd, 2024

(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/5]

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

MTM Innovation Investment Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 19th day of January 2024, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has commenced the process of liquidation.

The Liquidator is:-
Wayne S. Francis
of c/o Sertus Chambers,
P.O. Box 905,
Quastisky Building,
Road Town, Tortola VG 1110,
British Virgin Islands
[35/6]

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

Peleideum Inc.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 18th day of January 2024, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register.

The Liquidator is:-
Joan Johnson
of c/o Sertus Chambers,
P.O. Box 905, Quastisky Building,
Road Town,
Tortola VG 1110,
British Virgin Islands
[35/7]

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

Joy Stride Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 18th day of January 2024, under the terms of Part XII of the BVI Business Companies Act the Company has been dissolved and struck off from the Register.

The Liquidator is:-
Joan Johnson
of c/o Sertus Chambers,
P.O. Box 905,
Quastisky Building,
Road Town, Tortola VG 1110,
British Virgin Islands
[35/8]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act, 2004

CHING SISTERS INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Company No. 147327
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 January 16, 2024.

Dated: 22nd day of January, 2024.
Sgd. Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/9]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act, 2004

GOLDEN FIRM INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Company No. 1826621
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 January 16, 2024.

Dated: 22nd day of January, 2024.
Sgd. Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/10]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act, 2004

Kildare Realisations Ltd

Company No. 2050721
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 January 18, 2024.

Dated: 22nd day of January, 2024.
Sgd. Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/11]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act, 2004

MacDoel Realisations Ltd

Company No. 2050773
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 January 18, 2024.

Dated: 22nd day of January, 2024.
Sgd. Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/12]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act, 2004

Snowfields Corporate Limited

Company No. 1980612
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 January 22, 2024.

Dated: 22nd day of January, 2024.
Sgd. Sgd. Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/13]

Sheffield Investments Group Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 1893998
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 the 22nd day of January, 2024. The Liquidator is **Brian Jackson of Mandar House, 3rd Floor, Johnson's Ghut, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2024
Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/14]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.

Solace Labs Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2094462
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 January 22, 2024.

Dated: January 22, 2024
(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/15]

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

Nebula HNJ Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2071250
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 19th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 19th January 2024.
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/16]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.

Four Point Fitness Inc.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1620906
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 January 22nd, 2024.

Dated: January 23rd, 2024
(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/17]

Final Notice of Dissolution under the BVI Business Company Act.

DIGITAL FAITH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 476728
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 January 22nd, 2024.

Dated: January 23rd, 2024
(Sgd.) **Nelcia St. Jean**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/18]

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

CHELENA INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1403228
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 4th day of December, 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 4th day of December 2023.
Ray George
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/19]

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

SISTER HOLDING LTD.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1966884
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 6th day of December, 2023. The Liquidator is **Ray George of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 6th day of December 2023
Ray George
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/20]

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

**IN THE ESTATE OF GOPAL NANJI PATEL,
DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by JAYESH GOPAL PATEL of Street No.2, Villa No. 15, Mirador, Arabian Ranches, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the intended Administrator of the Estate of the deceased who died intestate on the 5th day of April 2023, domiciled in United Arab Emirates, has applied to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the Probate Division for a Grant of Letters of Administration in the Estate of the said GOPAL NANJI PATEL, deceased.

ANY PERSONS having any objections to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the said JAYESH GOPAL PATEL 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.

Dated the 11th day of January 2024

HARNEY WESTWOOD & RIEGELS LP
Solicitors for the Intended Administrator
[35]

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

CLAIM NO. BVIHPB2024/

**IN THE ESTATE OF YEUNG, CHUN HO, LATE, OF FLAT D, 3/F,
138 TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG,
DECEASED**

ADVERTISEMENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Yeung, Yin Chun of Flat A 26th Floor, Tower 1, Sky Horizon, 35 Cloud View Road, North Point, Hong Kong and Yeung, Yin Chi, Jennifer of Flat B 19th Floor, Ming Wai Gordon, 45 Repluse Bay Road, Hong Kong for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicants who are the daughters of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate at Hong Kong Sanitarium and Hospital in Hong Kong on 14 January 2016.

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 15th day of January 2024

Filed by McW. Todman & Co, Attorneys-at Law for the Administrator whose address for service is:
McNamara Chambers, 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands; email: nstjean@mctodman.com

[35]

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

**KingStar Investments
International Limited**
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1857613

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 23rd January, 2024. Dated: 23rd day of January 2024
(Sgd.) *Philippa V O'Sullivan*
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/21]

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

**RUST TRADING
LIMITED**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1657988

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 23RD day of January, 2024. The liquidator is *Philippa V O'Sullivan* of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands
Dated: 23th day of January 2024
(Sgd.) *Philippa V O'Sullivan*
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/22]

*Final Notice of Dissolution under the
BVI Business Company Act.*

**HOBY INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED**

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 530298

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 January 22, 2024. Dated: January 23, 2024
(Sgd.) *Nelcia St. Jean*
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/23]

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

**CASTLE KNOWLEDGE
MANAGEMENT LIMITED**

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 22nd January 2024. The Liquidator is *Ray A. George* of Long Trench, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.
Dated: 22nd January, 2024

Ray A. George
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/24]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
VIRGIN ISLANDS
PROBATE NO. OF 2024**

**In the Estate of JIRO KAUR @ ASBIR KAUR late of 7, Hala
Raja Dihilir, 30350 Ipoh, Perak, deceased
FORM P16: ADVERTISEMENT (RESEALING)**

Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the resealing of the probate of the estate of JIRO KAUR @ ASBIR KAUR late of 7, Hala Raja Dihilir, 30350 Ipoh, Perak, deceased, granted by the High Court of Malaya at Kuala Lumpur, on 18 July 2016

Dated: 22 January 2024

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

[35]

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

BVIHPB 2024/0018

**In the Estate of YEVHENII ANATOLIHOVYCH LENG
late of Kyiv oblast, Kyiv-Sviatoshyn RV HU MVS,
Ukraine, deceased**

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by TANASHIENKO OKSANA PETRIVNA, an Individual Entrepreneur for a Grant of Letters of Administration with Will Annexed of the above-named deceased who died on the 1st day of November, 2021 at Khodosivka Village, Obukhiv District, Kyiv Region, Ukraine, domiciled in Ukraine without revoking a will bearing 13th day of October, 2018 wherein the applicant is the sole beneficiary identified in the will 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 22nd day of January, 2024.

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

[36]

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Metropolitan Dawn Holdings Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1934952
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 24th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 24th January 2024
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/25]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2006627
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 24th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 24th January 2024.
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/26]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2006622
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 24th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 24th January 2024.
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/27]

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

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 2031304
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 24th January 2024. The liquidator is **Philippa O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated: 24th January 2024
(Sgd.) **Philippa O'Sullivan**
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/28]

Karma Investment Group Ltd

Company No. 1944801
(in voluntary liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 that the above named company, is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on the 22th day of January 2024 and **Paula Ajarie of Lot 24 de Castro Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands VG1110 is the voluntary liquidator. CARRIES OUT ITS PRINCIPAL BUSINESS]**
Paula Ajarie
Voluntary Liquidator
Dated: January 22, 2024 [35/29]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Novegrad 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 January 19th, 2024. 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: January 19th, 2024.
(Sgd.) **Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana**
Joint Voluntary Liquidators [35/30]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Mahmoud Malhas Jet 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 January 19th, 2024. 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: January 19th, 2024.
(Sgd.) **Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana**
Joint Voluntary Liquidators [35/31]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.
NORTHBAY GLOBAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

(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 December 19th, 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: December 19th, 2023.
(Sgd.) **Michele Hibbert and Saajid Jasat Bhana**
Joint Voluntary Liquidators [35/32]

ORIONBEST HOLDING LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 1659369
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 the 23rd day of January, 2024. The Liquidator is **Brian Jackson of Mandar House, 3rd Floor, Johnson's Ghut, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 24th day of January, 2024
Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/33]

RIGHTIME MANAGEMENT LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 424490
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 the 24th day of January, 2024. The Liquidator is **Brian Jackson of Mandar House, 3rd Floor, Johnson's Ghut, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated this 24th day of January, 2024
Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/34]

JAP FOODS TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 1720142
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 24th day of January, 2024.

Dated this 24th day of January, 2024
Sgd. Brian Jackson

Brian Jackson
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/35]

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 203 of the BVI Business Company Act.
Spray Roses Limited

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1901877
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 12 January 2024. The Liquidator is **Harry J. Thompson of Harbour House, P.O. Box 4428, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.**

Dated 24 January 2024
(Sgd.) **Harry J. Thompson**
Voluntary Liquidator(s)
[35/36]

**The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
VIRGIN ISLANDS**

In The Estate of CHAN TAK SIN PHILIP also known as CHAN TAK SIN late of C1, 13th Floor, Greenville Gardens, Shiu Fai Terrace, Stubbs Road, Hong Kong, deceased

Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the resealing of the grant of letters of administration of the estate of CHAN TAK SIN PHILIP also known as CHAN TAK SIN late of C1, 13th Floor, Greenville Gardens, Shiu Fai Terrace, Stubbs Road, Hong Kong, granted by the High Court of The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Court of First Instance on 14th day of August 2023.

Signed: Walkers
Attorney-at-Law for Administrator
171 Main Street
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands
VG 1110

[35]

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS
PROBATE NO. BVIHPB2023/0283**

IN THE ESTATE OF JULIO HOTH Y ALATRISTE, LATE OF CERRADA COLORINES 95, JARDINES DEL PEDREGAL, ALVARO, OBREGON, MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, DECEASED,

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PROBATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **MARIO LAZCANO TORRES** of Calzada del hueso No 39, Colonia Ex Ejido Santa Ursula, Coapa 04650 Ciudad de México, Mexico, for a Grant of Probate of Will of the above-named deceased who died on the 29th day of December 2020 without revoking a will bearing the date of 18th December 2020, wherein the applicant is named as the executor.

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

Dated this 8th day of January 2024.

Filed by: **Sinclair's (BVI), 2nd Floor, Unit 20, Mill Mall, Road Town Tortola, British Virgin Islands**
Legal Practitioner for the Applicant for Grant of Probate
[35]

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

**IN THE ESTATE OF ARUP MUKHOPADHYAY ALSO
KNOWN AS ARUP MUKHOPADHYAY BISWARUP
MUKHOPADHYAY,, DECEASED**

In the estate of ARUP MUKHOPADHYAY ALSO KNOWN AS ARUP MUKHOPADHYAY BISWARUP MUKHOPADHYA, late of Villa 29, St 8 Meadows, PO Box 939550, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Paramita Mukhopadhyay also known as Paramita Mukhopadhyay Jyotsnamy Deb of Villa 29, St 8 Meadows, PO Box 939550, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 20th day of May 2022 without revoking a Will bearing the date of the 8th day of May 2014 wherein the applicant is named executrix.

ANY PERSONS having any objections to the Grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated the 11th day of January 2024

Filed by Paramita Mukhopadhyay also known as Paramita Mukhopadhyay Jyotsnamy Deb whose address for service is c/o Harney Westwood & Riegels LP, Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, Road Town Tortola VG1110, British Virgin Islands

[35]

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

**IN THE ESTATE OF RÉGINE MONICA MONETTE
VANDENHOECK HOWSON, DECEASED**

In the estate of RÉGINE MONICA MONETTE VANDENHOECK HOWSON, late of Rua Dr. João Moniz Nogueira, Lote B., 5° - A, União das freguesias de Lagos, Lagos, Portugal, 8600-616, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Christopher Paul Howson of 824 Los Lovatos Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501, United States of America (formerly of Hooper Road, Westport, CT, 06880, United States of America, for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 2nd day of August 2020 without revoking a Will bearing the date of the 29th day of September 2014 wherein the applicant is named executor.

ANY PERSONS having any objections to the Grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated the 11th day of January 2024

Filed by Christopher Paul Howson whose address for service is c/o Harney Westwood & Riegels LP, Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, Road Town Tortola VG1110, British Virgin Islands

[35]

*Final Notice of Dissolution under the
BVI Business Company Act.
Shing Man Holdings Limited
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1807100*

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 8 January 2024.
Dated 24 January 2024
(Sgd.) Harry J. Thompson
Voluntary Liquidator(s)
[35/37]

*Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator
under Section 204 of the BVI
Business Companies Act, 2004
NEWSTEAD ENTERPRISES
LIMITED*

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 195439
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 22nd 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: 24th day of January, 2024
(Sgd.) Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/38]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Company Act.
BASA BUSINESS LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 1901191*

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 January 23rd, 2024. The Liquidator is Nelcia St. Jean with an address at 116 Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.
Dated: January 24th, 2024
(Sgd.) Nelcia St. Jean
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/39]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Companies Act, 2004
CLASSIC NVIGATOR
INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED*

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company No. 618373
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 24th day of January, 2024. The liquidator is Philippa V O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.
Dated: 24th day of January 2024
(Sgd.) Philippa V O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator [35/40]

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

**IN THE ESTATE OF CARLOS ANDRE SPAGAT,
DECEASED**

In the estate of CARLOS ANDRE SPAGAT, late of Rua Cinderela, 63, Apartamento 11, Jardim Europa, São Paulo - SP, Brazil I, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by André Schivartche of Rua Hungria, No. 514 - Conj. 71, São Paulo, São Paulo - SP, 01455-010, Brazil, for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 20th day of December 2021 without revoking a Will bearing the date of the 24th day of September 2013 wherein the applicant is named executor.

ANY PERSONS having any objections to the Grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated the 11th day of January 2024

Filed by André Schivartche whose address for service is c/o Harney Westwood & Riegels LP, Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, Road Town Tortola VG1110, British Virgin Islands

[35]

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

**IN THE ESTATE OF GITANA MARIA FIGUEIREDO
LIRA, DECEASED**

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by RAIMUNDO LIRA of Shis QI 06, Conjunto 09, Casa 19/20, Lago Sul, Brasília 71620-095, Brazil, the intended Administrator of the Estate of the deceased who died intestate on the 22nd day of December 2020, domiciled in Brazil, has applied to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the Probate Division for a Grant of Letters of Administration in the Estate of the said GITANA MARIA FIGUEIREDO LIRA, deceased.

ANY PERSONS having any objections to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the said RAIMUNDO LIRA 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.

Dated the 11th day of January 2024

HARNEY WESTWOOD & RIEGELS LP
Solicitors for the Intended Administrator

[35]

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGISTERED LAND ACT,
CAP. 229 OF THE LAWS OF
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

AND

IN THE MATTER OF MOHAMED NAGY
A. DARWISH
AND REPUBLIC BANK (BVI) LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that in exercise of the power of sale conferred on the Chargee by the Registered land Act, Cap. 229 of the Laws of the Virgin islands and in right of the said power vested in REPUBLIC BANK (BVI) LIMITED, the Chargee by virtue of a certain Charge of the undermentioned land created by MOHAMED NAGY A. DARWISH as Chargor and REPUBLIC BANK (BVI) LIMITED as Chargee and registered in the Land Register of the Virgin Islands as an encumbrance in the register relating to the said land, REPUBLIC BANK (BVI) LIMITED will put up for sale by public auction at the office of McW. Todman & Co., Main Street, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands on Wednesday the 15th day of February 2024 at 3:00 p.m. the undermentioned parcel of land together with any improvements standing thereon with the upset price set at \$720,000.00.

ALL THAT piece of parcel of land together with the dwelling house thereon situate at Soldier Hill, Tortola, British Virgin Islands containing 0.544 of an acre and described in the Land Register of the Virgin Islands as Parcel #322 Lots 316 & 317 of Block #2538B of the West Central Registration Section.

Interested persons are asked to submit a sealed offer or provide a written notice confirming interest in the property and an intention to bid at the time of the Auction anytime up to 4:00 p.m. on 14 February 2024 to the office of McW. Todman & Co.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this notice or in any agreement or otherwise The Bank shall not be obligated to sell to the highest or any bidder at the said auction.

A BID OR SEALED OFFER WHICH IS ACCEPTED BY THE BANK IS BINDING ON THE BIDDER AND THE BANK MAY BRING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE BIDDER TO ENFORCE THE AGREEMENT.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to McW. Todman & Co. at Mail@mctodman.com, Telephone No. (284) 494 2810.

Dated the 23 January 2024.

Sgd: McW. TODMAN & Co.
McW. TODMAN & CO.
ATTORNEYS for

[36]

*Notice of Appointment of a
Liquidator under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Company Act
Blue Safari Merge II
Limited*

(INVOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company No. 2085460
(the Company)

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 204, subsection 1 (b) of the BVI Business Companies Act (as amended) that the Company is in Voluntary Liquidation. The Voluntary Liquidation commenced on 19 January 2024. The Liquidator is Monique Peters of Travers Thorp Alberga, Jayla Place, 2nd Floor, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.
Dated 22 January 2024
(Sgd) Monique Peters
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/41]

*Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator
under Section 204 of the
BVI Business Companies Act
Wisdom Education
Consulting Company
Limited*

(In Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 1947049

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 22 January 2024. 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: 22 January 2024
Rachael Pape
For and on behalf of Anton Goldstein and Rachael Pape
As Joint Liquidators
[35/42]

International Tax Authority (ITA) To Host Live Seminar for Investment Entities

Are you an Investment Entity subject to the reporting requirements under the Common Reporting Standards?

Are you a person appointed to fulfill those obligations through the BVIFars Portal?

As a responsible person reporting in the BVIFars Portal, you must stay up to date with the ever-evolving regulatory landscape, and we understand that navigating through the complexities of reporting obligations can be challenging. We know over the years, you have encountered issues or have concerns that we would like to address.

We invite you submit your questions or concerns in preparation for an informative session the ITA will be hosting on February 28, 2024. This session will be tailored to your needs and a detailed agenda will be provided to you in advance of the meeting once we have received your questions or concerns. Please send your questions in advance by February 2, 2024, to info@bviita.vg with the subject "Questions for Investment Entity Seminar".

We look forward to welcoming you on February 28, 2024, and assisting you in your journey towards compliance with the Common Reporting Standards

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

In the Estate of SIN KEUNG CHAN (also known as SIN KEUNG RICHARD CHAN) late of Flat B, 42nd Floor, Goldwin Heights, No.2 Seymour Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong, deceased

FORM P16: ADVERTISEMENT (RESEALING)

Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the resealing of the grant of letters of administration of Sin Keung Chan (also known as Sin Keung Richard Chan) late of Flat B, 42nd Floor, Goldwin Heights, No.2 Seymour Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong, deceased, granted by High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Court of First Instance on 1 February 2023.

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

[35]

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(PROBATE)
VIRGIN ISLANDS
BVIHPB 2024/

IN THE ESTATE OF NATHAN LEIBOWITZ late
of No. 2 Kanyanta Avenue Parklands,
Kitwe, Zambia, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT (RESEALING)

Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the resealing of the grants of letters of administration of the estate of NATHAN LEIBOWITZ late of No. 2, Kanyanta Avenue Parklands, Kitwe, Zambia granted by the Probate Registrar of the District Registry of the High Court of Zambia at P.O. Box 20135, Kitwe, Zambia, on the 24th day of November, 2017 and on the 4th day of December, 2017.

Dated this 19th day of January, 2024.

Signed: VIGILATE LAW,
Legal Practitioners for the Executors, whose address for service is at C/o VIGILATE LAW, Chevelle Centre,
Middle Floor, Unit #2, Main Street,
Road Town,
Tortola, Virgin Islands.

[35]

VI Prepares To Host Wagner Sailing Rally

The Virgin Islands is set to host the fourth Wagner Sailing Rally between January 25 and January 28.

The rally celebrates the life and service of Polish sailor, the late Wladek Wagner after settling in Bellamy Cay and Trellis Bay between the 1940's and 1950's.

Director of Culture Dr. Katherine Smith said the significance of the relationship forged between Mr. Wagner and the late Mr. Obel Penn, and other residents from the East End/Long Look community that significantly contributed to the development of Beef Island and Trellis Bay will be underscored.

Dr. Smith reiterated the importance of remembrance and heritage towards acknowledging the unique identity of the Virgin Islands people. She said, "I am looking forward in particular to the cultural exchanges of music and dance representative of Virgin Islands and Polish culture".

The opening ceremony for the 3 day event is organised in collaboration with the Department of Culture and is scheduled for

Thursday January 25 at the Trellis Bay Market Bar and Grill on Beef Island at 6:00 p.m. It will feature the raising of the Virgin Islands, British and Polish flags in a demonstration of unity and mutually beneficial continued partnership, the unveiling of the Wladek Wagner's Remembrance Plaque, and the Rally Welcome Concert that will include various cultural exchange performances.

Coordinators Ephraim and Shamora Penn conveyed their excitement to welcome the participants of the Wagner Sailing Rally Trellis Bay. This event will also honour the commitment and dedication of Mr. Obel Penn, not only to the East End/Long Look districts, but also to the overall advancement of the Territory.

On Friday the January 26, the public can expect to enjoy water-based and recreational sporting activities beginning at 11:00 a.m., with the day's activities concluding with the highly anticipated Full Moon Party at Trellis Bay.

Other organised events aimed at commemorating Wagner's

connection to the Virgin Islands are a yacht parade, where participating yachts will sail to Jost van Dyke, and the End of Rally Concert taking place at Foxy's on Saturday January 27.

The Polish Yachting Association of North America will be hosted under patronage of the Government of the Virgin Islands, and is expected to attract between 250 and 300 Polish sailors to be involved with the festivities.

The events are characterised by elements of festival culture, including an abundance of entertainment, leisure activities, socialising, unique experiences, and partaking in local cuisine.

The Virgin Islands community is invited to participate in the scheduled activities that will mark significant aspects of the Territory's culture and heritage.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
VIRGIN ISLANDS
PROBATE NO: 0004 OF 2024

In the Estate of HE, HUIFANG (黃惠芳) (also known as HE, HUI-FANG) late of Room 1501, No. 283, South Huijing Road, Wushan Street, Tianhe District, Guangzhou City, People's Republic of China, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by DU, WENYU (杜文字) (also known as DU WEN-YU) of Room 1501, No. 283, South Huijing Road, Wushan Street, Tianhe District, Guangzhou City, People's Republic of China, for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the lawful and natural husband of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on 26 September 2022.

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

Dated: 23 January 2024

Filed by Conyers Dill and Pearman, Legal Practitioners for the Applicant, whose address for service is Commerce House, Wickhams Cay 1, P.O. Box 3140, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands VG1110.
Tel: 1 (284) 852 1000 Fax: 1 (284) 1001
Email: Robert.Lindley@conyers.com

[36]

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

ACG (BVI) I, Co. Ltd.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Company No. 2114635

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 24th day of January, 2024. The liquidator is Philippa V. O'Sullivan of Sea Meadow House, P.O. Box 116, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

Dated: 25th day of January, 2024
(Sgd.) Philippa V. O'Sullivan
Voluntary Liquidator
[35/43]

To the Family and Friends of

Hon. Carvin Malone

The British Virgin Islands definitely will not be the same without the Honourable Carvin Malone. He was one of a kind. A kindhearted gentleman. May time help you heal and bring you peace. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know we are with you through your grief.
The publishers and management of
The Island Sun



GLOBAL KINGDOM BUILDERS NETWORK
TORTOLA, BVI CHAPTER

INVITE YOU TO OUR

UNITY SERVICE

SUN.28.JAN. 2024 | 6:30 PM

DELIVERANCE WORSHIP CENTRE
POCKWOOD POND, TORTOLA, BVI

"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:21

THE ISLAND SUN CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR BEST RESULTS

BALBUENA-BEAUTY SALON is looking for a full time BARBER, HAIRDRESSER, - and NAIL-TECHNICIAN. Persons interested, please call 343-1306 for more information.
[s36]

REGINALD-WILLIAMS is looking for two SALES PERSONS to work full time. Interested:- Please-call 1-340-5213-2010, for more information
[s36]

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT
BRIDGEPORT DIVISION

-----X
In re:
Ho Wan Kwok,
Debtor. :

:
Chapter 11
Case No. 22-50073 (JAM)
-----X

**NOTICE OF MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR
TRUSTEE TO BRING CLAIMS AGAINST POTENTIAL
DEFENDANTS**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT

On February 15, 2022 (the "Petition Date"), Mr. Ho Wan Kwok (the "Debtor") filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut (the "Bankruptcy Court"). On July 8, 2022, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order granting the appointment of Luc A. Despins as the chapter 11 trustee (the "Trustee") in the Debtor's chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case").

On January 18, 2024, the Trustee filed the Motion for Entry of an Order Extending Deadline for Trustee to Bring Avoidance Actions Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 108, 546, and 549 [Docket No. 2509] (the "Tolling Motion"). The Tolling Motion seeks to extend (i.e. "toll") the statutory deadline(s) to file causes of action seeking recovery or other relief from Potential Defendants. Potential Defendants are parties (individuals or entities) that (i) have received any transfers from any of the parties listed on Schedule I to the Tolling Motion, (ii) are subsequent transferees of such parties, or (iii) are listed on Schedule II to the Tolling Motion (including as it may be updated and publicly filed).

On January 19, 2024, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Order, Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code Section 105(a) and Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 9014, (I) Approving Form and Manner of Notice of Trustee's Forthcoming Tolling Motion and (II) Scheduling Hearing [Docket No. 2515] (the "Notice Order") authorizing the form and manner by which the Trustee may provide notice of the Tolling Motion (as defined below).

If you are one of these BVI entities, or an officer or director thereto, you may be a Potential Defendant that this notice (the "Notice") applies to. However, this Notice may still apply to you even if you are not one of the listed BVI entities or an officer or director thereto.

Pursuant to the relief granted in the Notice Order, the Trustee hereby provides this Notice to all Potential Defendants of the Trustee's intent to extend the statute of limitations for actions described in the Tolling Motion. The Tolling Motion and Schedule I and Schedule II thereto can be found at the Debtor's restructuring website at <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/kwoktrustee/dockets>. The fact that you are a Potential Defendant does not necessarily mean that any claims have yet, or will be, brought against you or that, if such claims are brought, you will be found liable.

If you wish to challenge the relief requested in the Tolling Motion, you must file and serve a written objection so that such objection is filed with the Bankruptcy Court and actually received no later than February 5, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) (the "Objection Deadline"), by the following parties: (a) counsel to the Debtor, Zeisler & Zeisler, P.C., 10 Middle Street, 15th Floor, Bridgeport, CT 06605 (Attn: Eric Henzy (ehenzy@zeislaw.com)); Attn: James M. Moriarty (jmoriarty@zeislaw.com)), (b) counsel to the Trustee (i) Paul Hastings LLP, 200 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10166 (Attn: Douglass Barron (douglassbarron@paulhastings.com)); (ii) Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C., 195 Church Street, 13th Floor, New Haven, Connecticut 065510 (Attn: Patrick Linsey (plinsey@npmlaw.com)); (c) counsel to the official committee of unsecured creditors, Pullman & Comley, LLC, 850 Main Street, 8th Floor PO Box 7006, Bridgeport, CT 06601-7006 (Attn: Irve J. Goldman (igoldman@pullcom.com)), (d) those parties that filed a notice of appearance in the Chapter 11 Case, and (e) the United States Trustee for the District of Connecticut, Giaimo Federal Building, Room 302, 150 Court Street, New Haven, CT 06510 (Attn: Holley L. Claiborn (Holley.L.Claiborn@usdoj.gov)).

A hearing to consider the Tolling Motion will be held on February 13, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) before the Honorable Julie A. Manning in the Bankruptcy Court, 915 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604.

UNLESS AN OBJECTION IS TIMELY SERVED AND FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE IT MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT.

YOU ARE ADVISED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE TOLLING MOTION AND SCHEDULE I AND SCHEDULE II ATTACHED TO THE NOTICE ORDER, AS YOUR RIGHTS MIGHT BE AFFECTED. POTENTIAL DEFENDANTS WHO DO NOT TIMELY OBJECT TO THE TOLLING MOTION MAY WAIVE THEIR RIGHT TO DO SO AT A LATER TIME.

If you require additional information regarding this Notice, you may contact the Trustee's counsel, Paul Hastings LLP, by e-mailing douglassbarron@paulhastings.com.

Upon information and belief, the following Potential Defendants are incorporated in the British Virgin Islands ("BVI"):

Ace Decade Holding Limited
Bouillour Holdings Limited
Dawn State Limited
Freedom Media Ventures Ltd.
UG Club Holdco I LLC
G Club International Ltd (BVI)
G Fashion Hold Co. B. Limited
G Fashion International Limited
Gold Leaf Consulting Limited
Head Win Group Limited
Himalaya International Clearing Ltd
Himalaya International Financial Group Ltd.
Himalaya International Payments Ltd.
Himalaya International Reserves Ltd.
Hudson Diamond Holding, Inc.
Jovial Century International Limited
Long Gate Limited
New Dynamic Development Limited
Next Tycoon Investments Limited
Ogier
O'Neal Webster
Shiny Ace Limited
Shiny Times Holding Limited
Well Origin Limited
World Century Limited

PA Business Advisory Limited
PA Business Opportunity VII Limited
PA Business Opportunity VIII Limited
Whitecroft Shore Limited
Splendour United Limited
ACA Capital Group Limited
Alfonso Global Limited
Allied Capital Global Limited
Alpha Ace Ventures Limited
Anton Developments Limited
Arcelio Limited
Assets Sino Limited
Auspicious Coast Limited
Creative Apex Investments Limited
Crystal Breeze Investments Limited
Elite Well Global Limited
Fiesta Investment Ltd.
G Fashion Hold Co A Limited
Globalist International Limited
Guang Hong Limited
Hamilton Investment Management Limited
Hero Grand Limited
Joincorp International Limited
Joy Chance Holdings Limited
Kingman Management
Long Cheer Limited
Major Lead International Limited
Mega Ease Investments Limited
Noble Fame Global Limited
Shiny Mind Limited
Wealth Palm Limited
Jumbo Century Limited

His Majesty's Customs Is Observing 2024 Customs Week

His Majesty's Customs is observing its 2024 Customs Week from January 21 to 27. The week of activities commenced with a church service at the St. Georges Anglican Church in Road Town on January 21. Throughout the week, various social events will take place to honor and appreciate the dedication of the hardworking officers who have contributed tirelessly throughout the year of 2023 and those that have retired within that time. International Customs Day will also be recognised on Friday, January 26 under the theme, "Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose".

His Majesty's Customs staff thanks Financial Secretary, Mr. Jeremiah Frett and his team at the Ministry of Finance for their invaluable support in making their yearly celebration possible.

Photos: (Provided)



POLICE NEWS

ARREST BLOTTER

JANUARY 1 - 20 2024

RAPE

On 04-01-2024 at 1544hrs, Police arrested and charged a 48-year-old male with Rape and Indecent Assault. He appeared at Magistrate's Court and was granted bail in the sum of \$50,000.

ROBBERY

On 18-01-2024 at 1340hrs, Police arrested and charged Vernon Bernard, 32 of Manuel Reef with Robbery, Handling Stolen Goods, and Possession of the Proceeds of Criminal Conduct. He will appear at Magistrate's Court at the next available sitting.

ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM

1. On 18-01-2024 at 1712hrs, Police arrested and charged Kyreek Gardener, 22, of The Valley, Virgin Gorda with Possession of a Prohibited Firearm, Keeping an Unlicensed Firearm, two counts of Unlawful Possession of explosives, Unlawful possession of Cannabis and Unlawful possession of Cannabis with Intent to Supply. He will appear at Magistrate's Court at the next available sitting.

2. On 18-01-2024 at 1712hrs, Police arrested and charged Akeem Joseph, 38, of St. Croix, USVI with Possession of a Prohibited Firearm, Keeping an Unlicensed Firearm, two counts of Unlawful Possession of explosives, Unlawful possession of Cannabis and Unlawful possession of Cannabis with Intent to Supply. He will appear at Magistrate's Court at the next available sitting.

ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM

On 05-01-2024 at 1830hrs, Police arrested and charged Jodyann Thomas, 35, of Road Town with Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. She was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 15-02-2024.

ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER

On 19-01-2024 at 1536hrs, Police arrested and charged Peter Davis of Fort Recovery with Assault on a Police Officer. He was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 01-03-2024.

COMMON ASSAULT

On 20-01-2024 at 1340hrs, Police arrested and charged Shanique Ogilvie, 36, of Parham Town with Common Assault. She was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 01-03-2024.

POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION

On 12-01-2024 at 1642hrs, Police arrested and charged Lizardo Londono Restrepo with Unlawful Possession of Ammunition.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED DRUG

1. On 18-01-2024 at 1604hrs, Police arrested and charged Akeema Stanley, 31, of Manuel Reef with Possession of a Controlled Drug. She was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 01-03-2024.

2. On 18-01-2024 at 1645hrs, Police arrested and charged Gabriella Vidalis George, 29 of the Valley Virgin Gorda with Possession of a Controlled Drug. She was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 11-03-2024.

3. On 18-01-2024 at 1645hrs, Police arrested and charged a 17-year-old male of the Valley Virgin Gorda with Possession of a Controlled Drug. He was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 11-03-2024.

4. On 20-01-2024 at 1100hrs, Police arrested and charged Bob George, 56 of the Valley Virgin Gorda with Possession of a Controlled Drug. He was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 11-03-2024.

5. On 20-01-2024 at 1100hrs, Police arrested and charged Bakembe George, 32 of the Valley Virgin Gorda with Possession of a Controlled Drug. He was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 to appear at the Magistrate's Court on 11-03-2024.

THE ISLAND SUN CLASSIFIED ADS



FOR BEST RESULTS

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

To place your ad in The Island Sun: Call **284-494-2476*** or email islandssunnewsp@gmail.com. The Island Sun reserves the right to edit, refuse or cancel any ad at any time. The Island Sun is not liable for any loss of revenue or expense incurred for erroneous or unpublished advertising.

STAFF WANTED

Join our Yo Mama Team.
Open positions :
SERVERS
COOKS
KITCHEN HELPER
CASHIER
Part time & full time positions.
Must be friendly, a team player and have a good attitude and work ethics a MUST.
Telephone (284) 345-2766
[s42]

Mambo Night Club Bar & Restaurant requires
Full-Time-Bartenders,
Waitress, Cook, Kitchen Helper
Disc-Jockey,-Cleaners/ Domestic,- Handyman,
Maintenance, and
Administrative Assistance.
Please call 542-3900
[s35]

Progressive-Construction is seeking 2 **MASONS** and 2 **CARPENTERS** (full time) all with at least 6 years experience. Duties include regular work required for new residential projects. Send resume to progressiveconstructionbvi@gmail.com or call 441-7121
[s35]

Don't Panic Disc Jockey Services is seeking a Part-Time worker for the position:
-Disc Jockey
Applicants must be reliable, friendly, and a team player. Must be willing to work flexible hours/days and late nights. Interested persons should send their resume to h_lyttle@hotmail.com or contact 284-540-3068 for more information.
[s35]

KAD POOL SERVICES LIMITED requires a Full-Time Pool Technician. Must be a Certified Pool Operator. Please apply in writing to the Managing Director, P.O. Box 3169, PMB 196, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110, BVI, or call 284-541-8006.
[s35]

M. A. R. I. M. A. - Byosafe Services is seeking one (1) Sales Representative, two (2) General Maintenance Workers and one (1) Sprayer (full time) for the removal of organic matter. Please contact 284-342-2521 for information.
[s35]

One full time Domestic Worker-needed.- For more information please telephone 284 542 2663.
[s35]

Simon & Company Ltd. STAFF WANTED

Positions:
Project-Development Manager:

Responsibilities include Designing & Redesigning of store layout & Merchandise.

Stocker/Delivery driver:

Responsibilities include cleaning & stocking the shelves. Preparing orders and delivery to customers.

Sandwich Maker:
Preparation of different sandwiches, salads, platters & daily specials.

Part-time-Cleaner & Dishwasher:

Washing of bakery Equipment and Utensils, -
Heavy lifting Required (Mixing Bowl). Monday / Saturday

Interested persons must be able to work flexible hours, including Sundays & holidays.

BVIslanders/Belongers Preferred
CallforInterview3404926
[s35]

The Tortola Auto Group Ltd. (TAG) is accepting applications-for-the position of **Automotive Body Technician.(full time)** The candidate should have 5 years' experience as an **Automotive Painter / Denter** in a Body Shop environment. Interested persons should contact and submit their CV/Resume to hr@tagbvi.com and/or 284-494-2600. The deadline for submission of applications is 31st January 2024.
[s35]

Connor Maintenance is seeking two (2) **Painters (full time)** to work within our Maintenance company. Please contact 284-442-0806 for more information.
[s35]

WHISTLING PINE needs:
3 WAITRESSES
2 BARTENDERS
1 GRILL COOK
1 KITCHEN HELPER
1 HANDYMAN
Telephone-341-4188
[s35]

EMCS Caribbean is looking for **M E P Technicians** Interested applicants can submit their CV/Resume with cover letter to P O Box 386 Road Town, Tortola, BVI or call 284-494-1300
[s36]

EMCS Caribbean is looking for **Quantity Surveyors** Interested applicants can submit their CV/Resume with cover letter to P O Box 386 Road Town, Tortola, BVI or call 284-494-1300
[s36]

PicSmith Medical Services Limited is seeking a **General Practitioner/General Surgeon** with at least 5 years experience - **Tertiary and Community Health** experience a plus. Please - r e s p o n d - t o medicalservicesp@gmail.com with a letter of application and resume.
[s36]

Duck N Dive requires a full time **Bar/Restaurant Manager** with a minimum of 5 years work experience. For more information and to send your resume by WhatsApp, contact 340 3161.
[s36]

Duck N Dive requires a full time experienced **Bartender** for immediate employment. For more information and to send your resume by WhatsApp, contact 340 3161.
[s36]

RELYON-MARKETING GROUP is seeking a full time writer for **Life and Style's Magazine.**-Please send resume for consideration to relyonmg@gmail.com or call 1-284-542-0121
[s36]

ONE full time FISHERMAN needed. Applicants **MUST** have at least five years experience in fishing. Telephone 496-9699
[s36]

Maid 2 Shine is seeking applications for 3 cleaners. Please make contact with the company by emailing maid2shinebvi@gmail.com. Telephone: 499-6969
[s36]

EMCs Caribbean Ltd. is seeking to fill the position of a full time **Heavy Equipment Operator** with at least 5 years of experience. Interested applicants can send their CV/Resume with a cover letter at P.O. Box 386 Road Town Tortola British Virgin Islands or call 284-494-1300. [s36]

ISLAND DEPARTMENT STORE

DUFF'S BOTTOM
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APPLIANCES
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