

# the Cayman Spirit

Cayman Islands Government Information Services



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## Debris Removal Contract Awarded

On Monday, 1 November 2004, the Central Tenders Committee (CTC) approved the awarding of the contract for debris removal on Grand Cayman to MC Restoration.

In setting its priorities following the devastation of Hurricane Ivan, the Cabinet gave top priority to debris removal and management. Expressions of interest in undertaking the project were received from several companies and after reviewing these, the CTC selected MC Restoration of Tampa, Florida.

The contract is based on a unit price (per cubic yard).

A major facet of the agreement with MC Restoration is the use of available local equipment and labour.

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## Cleanup Efforts Continue

by Lennon Christian

For the Department of the Environment, sand restoration is currently in the cleanup and conservation spotlight. Staff members are consulting with Coastal Planning & Engineering, a Boca Raton, Florida firm, with a view to replacing the volumes of sand that were washed onto the roads and that have stockpiled in many locations.

Starting along Seven Mile Beach and ar-

reas along the south coast, the beach survey continues, for few of Grand Cayman's coastal areas escaped the ravages of sand displacement and many waterfront dive centres and other properties are actively pursuing restoration options.

Meanwhile, the beach and underwater cleanup organised by the Cayman Islands Tourism Association (CITA) continues this weekend (6/7 November) and will focus on



Coming to grips with the problem of sand displacement: on the job near Bodden Town's coastal strip

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## News from the Port Authority

Continued on Page 2

by Lennon Christian

Compensating for possible delays, the Port Authority has temporarily extended the period for which cargo does not incur any stor-

age charges from five to ten working days. In addition, the port will remain open until 8:00pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to allow after-office hours collection of imported goods.

# Financial Secretary's Message

## A Message from Financial Secretary, the Hon. Ken Jefferson

As we approach the two-month mark following the passing of Hurricane Ivan, we all can see the significant progress of recovery.

The Portfolio of Finance and Economics, like all other branches of government, has been diligently working to deal not only with recovery concerns, but government business and priorities that pre-dated the storm. The government's recent decision to offer a 50 percent duty concession on office equipment and computers is a prime example of how we're encouraging the recovery of businesses in Cayman.

The financial services industry has been working just as hard to keep commerce flowing. They have been extremely successful due to business continuity plans and sound management practices. They will quickly begin to see new opportunities not related to recovery and we are thankful for their loyalty and support of the Cayman Islands.

We're also seeing evidence of the economic activity that a recovery such as ours can bring. The strong entrepreneurial spirit inherent in Caymanians is evident. We're seeing business owners redirecting resources to focus on new priorities; new businesses and services developing out of necessity and market need; and many established businesses quickly mobilizing to meet unprecedented market demands.

All of this is to say that as life events happen, so too does economics and business. In our case, it's entrepreneurial spirit tied to a strong business climate with solid leadership. But, in our unique situation, it's also about human need. As we continue to work hard to bring about a semblance of normal to our lives, it's clear we need each other to survive and thrive.

It's important for all of us to continue to be grateful for what we have – our families, our health, our communities, a beautiful country to call home and an entrepreneurial spirit that will help see us through this recovery and into the future.

## News from the Port Authority

*Continued from Page 1*

The Authority aims to have all LCL (less than container loads) cargo available within four working days of discharge from the ship. Dedicated containers are available within one working day of discharge.

Brokers and trucking companies experiencing difficulties in delivering containers should submit to the Cargo Distribution Centre a list of their containers for delivery the following day, and the order in which they wish to collect them. This information should be provided by 3:00pm on the previous working day.

Imports which have been at the Cargo Distribution Centre on Portland Road longer than ten working days will incur storage charges. These will have to be paid at the Port Authority's Billing Office on Portland Road before the goods are released.

Items at the Cargo Distribution Centre longer than ten days should be collected immediately, as such goods are subject to auction after four weeks.

## CIRO News

- All shelterees have been moved out of schools and are now at the East End Civic Centre. The Pines residents and staff moved into Sammy's Airport Inn 3 November.
- The first Disaster Assistance Centre is scheduled to open on Wednesday, 10 November.
- Donations of building materials to the Department of Children and Family Services go towards fixing clients' homes. The DCFS has a crew of volunteers from service clubs who are taking care of the urgent repairs of the elderly, disabled, and homes with small children.
- All Government departments now have office space.
- The Human Concerns subgroup reported that some residents who thought they could stay in their damaged homes are learning that their buildings have serious structural damage and are unsafe to live in.

## Cleanup Efforts Continue

*Continued from Page 1*

Cheeseburger Reef in George Town and the snorkel and dive sites to its north. Dive cleanups will also take place at Turtle Reef in West Bay.

Last weekend (30/31 October) an estimated 50 beachcombers and snorkellers, and 118 divers helped out with the cleanup covering Smith's Cove, Armchair Reef, reefs fringing the Holiday Inn and 200m North, The Reef (Resort Sports) to Captain's Bakery (Beach), Public Beach to the Pinnacle (Beach), Cheeseburger Reef, Eden Rock, Doc Paulson, Chain Link Reef and Mitch Miller's Reef. Lots of debris was found in the northern areas of Seven Mile Beach. Volunteers included staff from The Royal Reef in the East End and Deloitte and Touche, in addition to CITA Watersport operators.

Helping out with cleanup projects across the island are a number of employees from the financial services industry called the Ivan Weekend Warriors. Consisting of 50 volunteers, the group have worked on church grounds, schools and homes of the elderly and needy in the community. They have helped out with the CITA and Chamber of Commerce cleanups and have worked on school projects for Triple C and Cayman Prep. Volunteers are made up of staff from companies including UBS, HSBC, PwC, Maples, Ernst & Young, Dresdner Bank and RK consulting.

If you would like assistance with clean up or repair projects contact the Ivan Weekend Warriors by calling Bill Carnahan at UBS (326 3014) or Padraig Hoare at Dresdner Bank (916 5319).

## A DEH Appeal

Department of Environmental Health (DEH) warns residents that dumping of waste and debris on dyke roads and other areas is illegal and will not be tolerated. "During this difficult time we ask the public to comply with regulations and dispose of waste at the landfill or at the designated sites in all districts," said Chief Environmental Health Officer, Roydell Carter.



# Health & Safety Tips

Follow these public health and safety tips and protect your family from the hazards that lurk after Ivan. More information on these subjects can be downloaded from the government website at [www.gov.ky](http://www.gov.ky) under "Recovery News".

## Operating a Portable Generator

With a steady increase in the number of persons showing up at the Accident & Emergency Room at the Cayman Islands Hospital with symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning and burns caused by improper handling of portable generators, the Health Services Authority emphasizes the need for all residents to observe all safety precautions when using these devices.

Head of the Accident & Emergency Department, Dr. Fiona Robertson says that while portable electric generators offer great benefits, they can be hazardous if used improperly. Major hazards are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electrocution from connecting a generator to the home electrical wiring system, fires and burns.

### Follow these safety tips on the proper use of generators:

#### Carbon Monoxide Hazard

Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly which cannot be seen or smelt. If you start to feel sick, dizzy, or weak while using a generator, get to fresh air RIGHT AWAY. DO NOT DELAY. Carbon monoxide from generators can rapidly lead to full incapacitation and death.

If you experience serious symptoms go to the hospital immediately and inform medical staff that CO poisoning is suspected.

- NEVER use generators indoors, including homes, garages, and other enclosed or partially-enclosed areas, even when ventilated. Opening doors and windows or using fans will not prevent CO build-up in the home.
- Only operate the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry area, away from air intakes to the home, and protected from direct expo-

sure to rain, preferably under a canopy, open shed, or carport.

- Install battery-operated certified CO alarms or plug-in CO alarms with battery backup in your home, according to the manufacturer's installation instructions.

#### Electrical Hazard

- Keep the generator dry and do not use in rain or wet conditions. To protect from moisture, operate it on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure. Dry your hands if wet before touching the generator.
- Plug appliances directly into the generator. Or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads. Check that the entire cord is free of cuts or tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially the grounding pin.
- NEVER try to power the house wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet, a practice known as "backfeeding". This is an extremely dangerous practice that presents an electrocution risk to utility workers and neighbors served by the same utility transformer. It also bypasses some of the built-in household circuit protection devices.
- If you must connect the generator to house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician make the appropriate connection.

#### Fire / Burns Hazard

- Gasoline containers should not be stored in the same place as a fuel-burning appliance. Gasoline vapors can travel invisibly along the ground and be ignited by pilot lights or arcs caused by activating electric switches.
- Before refueling the generator, turn it off and let it cool down. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts may ignite.

## Hazardous chemicals

Cleaning up Ivan's mess comes with some hazards of its own:

#### Transporting Gasoline

- Never drink water from a container that has

held gasoline or diesel. Gasoline contains an ingredient that is a known carcinogen (cancer-causing agent.)

- Never siphon gas by mouth or put gasoline in your mouth for any reason. Gasoline can be fatal if swallowed. If someone does swallow gas do not induce vomiting. Contact a doctor immediately.

#### Store and Dispose Safely

- Separate gasoline, oil, solvents, lubricants and household cleaners in secured containers for storage.
- Use only a UL approved container (red plastic) to hold gasoline, placing it on the ground when refueling to avoid a possible static electricity ignition of fuel vapours. Do not use glass bottles, or plastic milk and soda bottles; they can melt and cause leakage.
- Never fill a container with gas when it is in a vehicle (including the trunk), in the back of a pickup truck or on the floor of a trailer.
- Make sure containers are secured with lids before transporting.

#### Handling Dead Batteries

- Keep batteries upright and place side by side without stacking to prevent leakage.
- Don't dump battery acid – instead store it in an appropriate container.
- If battery acid spills on your skin immediately rinse with soap and water.
- Battery acid spilt on clothing ruins it and cannot be removed – discard these clothes.
- Prevent chemical burns by always wearing protective clothing.

#### Cover Up when Cleaning Up

While removing debris such as mouldy dry-wall, insulation, old batteries and other storm damaged materials it is important to protect yourself:

- Wear work gloves, eye protection and a dust mask (an N95 or P100 dust mask is most ideal) to protect against breathing airborne mould spores and dust. Dust masks are available at most grocery stores and hardware/supply stores.
- Wear full shoes or sneakers if working in the yard or walking the streets.

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water or hand sanitizer after any cleanup.
- Wash hands thoroughly before preparing foods and before eating.

## Fibreglass – an irritating hazard

Direct contact or exposure to airborne fibreglass dust may irritate the eyes, skin, nose, and throat. Breathing fibres may irritate the airway, resulting in coughing and a scratchy throat. Some people are more sensitive to fibreglass fibers than others.

- After handling products containing fibreglass, bathe with soap and warm water. Wash clothes separately and rinse washer after use.
- If fibreglass particles accumulate on your skin, do not scratch or rub the area.
- Do not rub eyes while working with fibreglass. If fibreglass gets into eyes, flush them with large amounts of water for 5-15 minutes.
- If you inhale substantial amounts of fibreglass leave the area of exposure. Drink water to clear throat, and blow nose to remove dust.
- If handling fibreglass, wash hands before eating or using the restroom.

## Clothing and personal protective equipment for handling fibreglass

- Wear gloves, loose-fitting clothing, and long pants when working with fibreglass.
- Wear a hat and safety glasses with side shields.
- Wear an N-95 dust respirator if you are working in a dusty environment or if you are working with exposed fibreglass insulation overhead.
- When cleaning your work area, be organized in your approach so that you do not spread fibers back into an area you have previously cleaned.

## Mould – a growing concern

Mould should not be allowed to grow and multiply indoors. Large quantities of mould growth may cause odours, damage furnishings and finishes and cause health problems. How can I prevent mould growth?

- Keeping areas as clean and dry as possible is very important in controlling mould growth. Materials that have been water-damaged should either be dried out and cleaned or replaced. Materials that stay wet for more than 48 hours are likely to produce mould growth.

As a general rule, materials that are wet and cannot be thoroughly cleaned or dried should be discarded.

- Replace absorbent materials that become mouldy (such as ceiling tiles, wallboard, and carpeting). Persons cleaning mould should wear gloves, eye protection, and dust masks (an N95 or P100 dust mask is most ideal) to protect against breathing airborne spores.
- Extensive mould growth in buildings should be corrected as soon as possible by removing contaminated materials, cleaning surfaces, and completely drying the areas.

## What is the best way to cleanup?

- Wash and disinfect walls, floors, closets, shelves, and contents. In most cases, common household cleaning products and disinfectants may be used. Be careful about mixing household cleaners; follow label instructions carefully and provide fresh air by opening windows and doors. If possible, use fans both during and after using disinfecting, cleaning, and sanitizing products.

## Facts about Flies & Rodents

### Flies

Since Hurricane Ivan, flies seem to be everywhere. How can you control flies and what are some of the steps you can take to ensure they do not add to stressful circumstances?

### Why is it important to control flies?

- Flies contaminate foods with eggs and maggots.
- Flies can carry bacteria that cause intestinal diseases, for example, by traveling from fecal material with bacteria on body hairs or the sticky pads of their feet.
- Flies expel saliva and feces when feeding, that may also contain bacteria.

### How do I control flies?

- Proper sanitation should be in place to control flies as much as possible.
- Sticky traps can be hung to catch flies in buildings or outdoors.
- Insecticides can be used to control severe fly problems.
- Households can use aerosol sprays to control flies but in areas where food is prepared, all dishes and utensils must be covered and work surfaces washed after using spray.

### Rodents

- Rats can carry diseases such as plague, lep-

tospirosis, and salmonellosis

- Rats can destroy property, cut through screens, doors, and floors
- Rats eat and contaminate food
- Rats can cause fires by gnawing electrical wires
- Rats can jump two feet vertically, walk along electrical wires, survive falls of fifty feet, swim several miles, and crawl through one-half inch holes.

## What are some of the conditions that lead to rodents?

- Careless disposal of garbage
- Overgrown vegetation and piles of debris
- Derelict vehicles and discarded appliances
- Open discharge of kitchen wastewater
- Dilapidated buildings

## What are signs of rodent infestation?

- Droppings and urine odour
- Gnawing
- Rub marks along walls and burrows in the ground

## How are rodents controlled?

- Practice physical control methods such as constructing proper rodent-proof buildings and proper sanitation methods
- Trapping or poisoning rodents

## What can you do to prevent rodents?

- Keep property as clean as possible and control situations that harbour rats
- Allow rodenticide (rat poison) baiting by DEH officers
- Report any rodent signs in your area to DEH

DEH warns that if you buy your own rodenticide, take the following precautions: do not eat, smoke or drink while applying poison; do not dump unwanted poison in water; and keep all unused poison in a concealed and labelled container that is locked and kept out of reach of children and animals.

If you have observed rodents in your area or have any questions related to rodents contact the DEH at 949-6696.

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# Tourism Update

Grand Cayman's tourism recovery effort reached a major milestone with the arrival of the first two cruise ships on 1 November. The familiar sight of visitors enjoying our beaches, sightseeing and shopping is expected to gradually increase as the recovery process continues. To see the cruise ship schedule, please visit the Port Authority website at [www.caymanport.com/schedule.htm](http://www.caymanport.com/schedule.htm).

## Accommodations Alert

To date all major properties have been inspected to confirm their current status and many of them will be at least partially operational by the end of November. The Department of Tourism is notifying all accommodation properties on Grand Cayman that licenses issued to them prior to 12 September are now null and void. This will allow re-inspection and re-licensing to take place, ensuring the safety and quality of properties before full re-opening.

## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean Tourism Conference

In October, senior government officials and representatives from the Department of Tourism attended the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean Tourism Conference in Aruba demonstrating the importance our Government has placed on rebuilding our tourism industry.

During the four-day conference, Minister of Tourism and Leader of Government Business the Hon. McKeever Bush met with regional counterparts to discuss international aid programmes for hurricane-ravaged islands.

Acting Director of Tourism Pilar Bush attended meetings to discuss regional tourism management and marketing issues, post-Hurricane Ivan tourism industry openings and image management of hurricane-impacted islands in key markets.

Representatives from CIDOT Tourism Development Services staff also attended workshops, seminars and site inspections on product development.

## Conservatives Visit

*Photo and Caption by Lennon Christian*

Three UK Members of Parliament toured Grand Cayman on Wednesday, 3 November, to see first-hand the scale of hurricane devastation. The three, Shadow Secretary of State for International Affairs, Shadow Foreign Secretary and Deputy Leader of the Opposition the Rt Hon Michael Ancram QC, MP; Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs Mark Simmons MP; and The



HE the Governor (front left) with the Rt Hon Michael Ancram QC MP (center, with tie), Deputy Leader of the UK's Shadow Cabinet, and others discuss Hurricane Ivan damage with Bodden Town MLAs Roy Bodden and Gilbert McLean.

Lord Ashcroft were greeted by HE the Governor Mr Bruce Dinwiddy, CMG and the group's stops included Bodden Town, Frank Sound, and South Sound.

Also on the itinerary was a meeting with Leader of Government Business the Hon. McKeever Bush and a social occasion with the Hon Kurt Tibbetts, the Hon George McCarthy, Mr Orrett Connor, Mr Wil Pineau and Mr Connor O'Dea.



## Successful Business Forum

*by Dax Basdeo, CIIB*

A solid turnout for the Small Business Recovery Forum on Wednesday 3 November sparked lively discussions on several issues important to small businesses in the Cayman Islands.

With over 120 people in attendance at the Westin Casuarina Resort venue, topics of discussion ranged from the availability of financial assistance to the formation of a small business association.

The Leader of Government Business, the Hon. McKeever Bush gave the keynote address. Highlights touched upon the recent approval of a CI\$10 million bond issue, with CI\$3 million earmarked for small businesses. Mr. Bush also mentioned a number of new duty concessions available to businesses, as well as prospects for economic recovery beginning in January or February 2005 due to increases in imports and the availability of insurance payouts.

For more information on the small business recovery effort, contact Dax Basdeo at 525-1345.

## Night Flights Return

*by Angelique Crowther*

Residents may have noticed the familiar sound of Cayman Airways (CAL) flying into Owen Roberts Airport on the evening of 1 November.

Cayman Islands Airport Authority (CIAA) reports that CAL is the first carrier to resume evening flights since the post-Hurricane Ivan 6:30am to 6:30pm curfew at the airport.

# Ivan: A Volunteer's Experience

Photo and Story by Ruth Smith

For those who have long believed that volunteering is an essential part of who they are, a test of their dedication surely came along with category five Hurricane Ivan. Clitey Christian, a nurse and Red Cross volunteer for over 20 years, was summoned to the Breakers Community Centre Shelter the evening of 11 September. Accompanied by eleven-year-old daughter Sheila, herself a two-year Red Cross volunteer, Clitey joined shelter warden Tony Powell while the weather was still calm. Soon the shelter was filled and they knew they would have to eke out their limited provisions.

Faced with Ivan's wrath, she moved among the 40+ shelterees, dispensing medicines and comfort, sharing prayers and doing whatever she could to help them. As the storm peaked, the people remained calm: "Faced with Ivan's wrath, we knew there was little we could do besides pray," says Clitey. "The place was boarded up but we could hear objects outside, beating on the building and there was a moment of panic as water started coming underneath the door, but with teamwork, we used what was on hand to block it. I just knew that God wouldn't let us down."

Young Sheila also kept busy during the storm. "It was my job to watch over children at the shelter," she explains. "I helped them colour and pray, and we also watched *Shrek* on a portable DVD. My mom had told me I shouldn't be scared and working with the kids helped to keep my mind off what was happening."

But more was to come: at the height of the storm, more people struggled through buffeting wind and relentless rain to the community centre. Although it was full, none were denied entry to its relative



warmth and security. Two police officers put their own lives at risk, venturing out to save a severely injured resident who badly needed Clitey's nursing skills.

"As soon as they brought him in, he passed out in my arms. It seemed like he was bleeding from everywhere. His blood pressure was so high I was afraid he would have a stroke," says Clitey. "I stitched him up as best I could but wished I had more on hand to help him."

Volunteers, who offer themselves to those in need, often do so knowing it may mean leaving their own families and possessions at great risk. For Clitey, this reality brought its own terror during the hurricane when she overheard a call on the police radio: a young mother with her four children—ages eleven, six, three, and one year—were running for their lives, with just

the clothes on their back.

"I knew right then that it was my other daughter, Taekia. The police officers with us at Breakers bravely went back out to find out what they could. Ironically, when they found her, she had been more scared that something had happened to *me!*"

Taekia had been rescued with the children and taken to the Boddan Town Civic Centre. Hours later *that* shelter was destroyed too, forcing the evacuees to flee to another location while the storm still raged.

"When we finally got to see each other, we were both overjoyed," Clitey recalls. "Despite losing everything we had we were grateful that at least we all had our lives—and each other. God is good and since we know this, in situations like Ivan, we just have to go out there and do whatever we can to help."



# Cable & Wireless Changes

By Karen Cumming

You may be among the hundreds of residential and business customers who no longer have Cable & Wireless service. Maybe your home or office was destroyed by the hurricane... or maybe the C&W plant serving you was destroyed.

## What do you need to know? Here are the basics...

Until service is restored, residential and business "Direct Exchange Line" customers, business "Digital Subscriber Line" customers, and ADSL customers *will not have to pay* monthly recurring charges.

To benefit from the rental waivers, however, customers must contact C&W on 811 to inform them that they have been/are without service. Otherwise, for example, C&W may believe that all their systems are working, but if your house was destroyed, *there is no way for them to know unless you tell them.*

Credits are being issued for billings from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September on line rentals, ADSL, dialup, enhanced services and fixed line voicemail.

A 25% credit off the monthly fee is in place for DIA, leased circuits and frame relay customers.

Customers now without service may forward their calls to another number. C&W will waive the call forwarding set-up and monthly recurring charge. Usual usage charges will apply.

Transfer fees will not be charged to customers whose premises have been destroyed or are uninhabitable due to the hurricane, and who decide to temporarily or permanently transfer their service to another location.

## C&W will waive termination fees:

1. If your premises have been destroyed or are uninhabitable due to the hurricane, and you are leaving the country as a result;
2. If you decide to replace your C&W fixed line service with mobile service through a different provider. (But C&W must be advised of the decision prior to November 22<sup>nd</sup>.)



# The CUC Current

Caribbean Utilities Companies (CUC) is still on the move, restoring power throughout Grand Cayman. As of 3 November, approximately 14,300 customers have been restored. This represents about 66% of CUC's total customer base.

With a large shipment of supplies en route, Vice President of Transmission and Distribution Lee Tinney says, "Over the next few weeks and pending no more unexpected delays, all wire repairs will be completed and we

will be concentrating 100 percent on customer connections island-wide."

"One thing people should understand is that we are working in zones," continues Mr. Tinney. "If you are in an area with power but you do not have it, just contact the office and we will be able to tell you if your 'zone' has been energized yet." CUC will also provide a restoration zone map of Grand Cayman in the media to help people determine approximate restoration dates.

Area	Reconstruction of Main Lines	Restoration of power to re-connectable customers
George Town	Complete	Continuing
West Bay road north to Safe Haven	Complete	Continuing
Safe Haven, Lime Tree Bay, Governor's Harbour	Complete	Continuing
Safe Haven to West Bay Fire Station	Continuing	Continuing-near completion by 20 Nov
West Bay (north of the fire station)	Complete	Near completion by 4 November
Red Bay to Midsummer Drive	Complete	Currently near completion
Midsummer Drive to Buddy's Way	Complete	Near completion by 14 Nov
Buddy's Way to Agricola Drive	Complete	Near completion by 7 Nov
Agricola Drive to Northward Road	To begin 8 November	Near completion by 17 Nov
Condor Road to eastern end of Bodden Town Relief Road	To begin 12 November	Near completion by 24 Nov
Condor Road to Frank Sound Road	To begin 5 November	Near completion by 26 Nov
Frank Sound to Old Man Bay	Complete	Near completion by 10 Nov
North Side to Colliers	Complete	Near completion by 17 Nov
Frank sound Junction to Colliers	Complete	Near completion by 21 Nov

# Housing Assistance Explained

by Ruth Smith

In the wake of Hurricane Ivan, people all across the community are facing—both mentally and physically—the daunting task of recovery. Two of the important programmes have been initiated to provide financial assistance as people begin repairing their homes and lives:

## 1. Housing Recovery Grant

**Deadline:** 30 November 2004

**Priority given to:** applicants with a total household income below C\$40,000, the uninsured, elderly and indigent  
Maximum funds granted: C\$15,000

### **Criteria:**

- Damage must have resulted from Hurricane Ivan
- Funds must be used strictly for primary dwelling restoration, that dwelling to be a permanent structure
- Funds can only be used for property damage not covered by insurance
- Property must be an owner occupied, single dwelling unit
- Applicant must be Caymanian or hold Caymanian status

An application is considered complete **only** when an estimate for repair or restoration is attached, together with:

- Copy of passport, birth certificate, or other evidence of Caymanian Status
- Land registry information if available

### **Turnaround Time:**

There is a five-day response time for completed applications. Those received without

an estimate cannot be processed until the necessary information is provided.

Applications can be picked up at Cayman Islands Development Bank (CIDB) on Dr. Roy's Drive.

**Contact numbers:** 326-4060/4061/4062/4063/4064

## 2. Cayman Islands National Recovery Fund

**Deadline:** None set

**Priority given to:** families with young children, elderly, disabled  
Maximum funds granted: C\$10,000

### **Criteria:**

Any person who has been injured, bereaved, rendered homeless, destitute or otherwise adversely affected by Hurricane Ivan, including low income persons, may apply.

Applications may be picked up at police stations, gas stations, churches and the NRF office at Trinity Square.

**Contact numbers:** 943-3863, 925-5591/5592/5593/5594

Eligible persons should note that they may apply for both the Housing Recovery Grant and the National Recovery Fund. However, they may **not** receive more than C\$15,000 in total, a limit which is being monitored by both the CIDB and the NRF.

# BT Clinic Moves

Director of Public Health, Dr. Kiran Kumar is advising Bodden Town residents that a temporary clinic is now open at the Seventh Day Adventist Church Youth Hall. It will provide all medical and nursing services previously offered in the old location.

Nursing services will be available from 9 am-4 pm Monday to Friday and a doctor will be available at the clinic on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9 am and 12:00 noon.

Repair work is continuing on the Bodden Town Health Centre site.

# Feeling Stressed?

The following pastors are available to the public for help or advice:

Al Ebanks – 917 5007  
Nicholas Sykes – 916 7373  
Winston Rose – 916 0776  
Torrance Bobb - 916 5639  
Joe Crawford – 916 7513  
Alson Ebanks – 926 1489  
Anthony Gager – 916 8909  
David Jorge – 926 0461  
John Jefferson Sr – 925 4319  
Godfrey Meghoo – 916 7162  
Bob Thompson – 927 9814  
Clovis Wilks – 927 1163  
Gloria Wilks – 917 4061  
Rudolph Willis – 916 3392  
Steve Blair – 925 4783  
Sean Major-Campbell – 949 5583

District Department of Children and Family Services offices can be contacted on:

George Town (Mirco Centre) – 925 5345/925 5346  
West Bay (Old Sunrise Centre) – 925 5348  
Bodden Town includes East End, North Side and Bodden Town Districts (Bright Dayze Plaza) – 925 5347

Other professionals who are available to help or advise the public can submit their contact details to [GIS@gov.ky](mailto:GIS@gov.ky) for inclusion in the next issue of Cayman **Spirit**.

# Immigration Amnesty Ends

Twenty-one foreign nationals recently benefited from an Immigration Amnesty offered to persons remaining in the Cayman Islands without authorization. The 18 October-1 November amnesty enabled illegal residents the opportunity to leave without fear of prosecution.

Of those who departed, 20 were Jamaicans while one was Cuban. There were 9 males and 12 females and the length of time overstayed ranged between one and seventy-plus months.

# Schools Update

by Lynsay Brown

**The John Gray High School** anticipates opening for Year 11 and remaining Year 12 students on Monday, 8 November. This is contingent on provision of electricity to additional teaching areas, which are now ready for use.

John Gray High School Year 10 students

are expected to begin classes at the Agape Family Life Centre shortly after 8 November. Further advisories will be issued.

**The George Hicks High School** is expected to open 18 November. Due to the public holidays in that week, parents are ad-

vised that every effort will be made to speedily inform them of arrangements for the re-opening of the school. Remaining critical work is dependent on the provision of electricity.

**Red Bay Primary School** Learning Centre will open on 8 November at the Mary Miller Memorial Hall for Years 4-6. Infant classes will begin at the school as soon as their rooms are available.

**Prospect Primary School** plans to open on 10 November. Parents should continue to listen to advisories.

**Savannah Primary School and Bodden Town Primary** expect to open by 10 November and again, parents should continue to listen to advisories.

**The Alternative Education Centre** expects to be operational by 18 November. The following schools are already open: North Side Primary School and John A. Cumber Primary School (All classes).

**Learning Centres at Elmslie United Church Hall for George Town Primary students and at East End Primary School** will continue with limited enrollment. As soon as these schools open, all students will be accommodated and the learning centres will close.

## Down the Marl Road

**You wrote:** CUC made a statement that George Town would be completely hooked up by 31 October; however, parts of Windsor Park, specifically Outpost Street and other adjoining roads, still don't have electricity. I heard that we many not get current for maybe another two weeks!

**CUC replies:** CUC is currently installing electrical hardware and power lines on the Templeton Pine/Windsor Park area, including Outpost Street and some side roads. The distribution lines in this area sustained major damage and rebuilding is currently in progress and is scheduled for completion by Thursday, 4 November. Customer connections are expected to be substantially complete by Tuesday, 9 November. Customers whose premises are not ready for reconnection when CUC's service crews are in this area will be required to call Customer Service at 949-4300 when they receive the Government inspection.

**You wrote:** Will Northward receive electricity by 1 December 2004? Will electrical inspectors be in the Northward area by 21 November?

**CUC replies:** Reconstruction of main lines in this area will commence on November 8th (next Monday) and customer connections will be substantially completed by November 17. **CaymanSpirit would like to add** that the inspectors try to work right ahead of CUC.

**You wrote:** I heard the Northward area will be cleaned by government on 21 November. True?

**CaymanSpirit replies:** Government awarded the contract for debris removal on 1 November. They're planning to set priorities this weekend (5-7 November). By the next issue we'll have a better idea when Northward will be cleaned.

**You wanted everyone to know:** I paid \$700 for four truck tires for a Nissan. This is about double the usual price.

## More Rumour Control

**Is it true that Planning is only considering plans for single-family dwellings?** The Planning Department is operating normally and considering **ALL** applications – for business, for development, for apartments. The department is, however, prioritizing applications and those that are recovery-related are being reviewed first.

**Is it true that Government doesn't have enough money for the loans it promised all qualifying civil servants?** Government assures you and *CaymanSpirit* that it has the money.

## CaymanSpirit

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**Contributing Writers**

GIS, Ministry of Tourism, Finance Portfolio  
Other sectors of Government

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Department

**Contact us:** GIS

Government of the Cayman Islands

Cricket Square

Elgin Avenue

Telephone 949-8092

[GIS@gov.ky](mailto:GIS@gov.ky)

*Do you have essential public information or an inspirational recovery story to tell? Give us a call or send an email.*