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TODAY'S WEATHER



High of 92
Low of 81

SEAS: Slight to moderate with wave heights 2 to 4 feet.

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Lengthy suspensions with pay for government employees

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Accusations of criminal conduct against government employees can lead to lengthy paid suspensions, in some cases for years, according to a series of information requests to

various government departments.
A *Cayman Compass* analysis found that government employees received almost 9,000 days of full pay while on suspension since the beginning of 2010.
At least 50 people on the government payroll had been on some kind of sus-

pension since January 2010. The length of these paid suspensions varied from 10 days to five years.
Suspension with full pay is required when employees face criminal charges related to their work, and unless the employee quits or retires, he or she can stay on full

pay until the charges are resolved.
Senior Customs Officer Lisa Kelly, responding to email questions earlier this year, wrote, "If a staff member is believed to be involved in criminal activity in the workplace or outside the work place, suspension with pay
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Staying focused on the mission

Stay-Focused founder and president Roger Muller, left, joins program participant Emily Clarke, intern Janessa Prendergast, board member Trisha Yurochko and Dr. Casey O'Donnell, in the water near Sunset House. Stay-Focused is a charitable organization that brings disabled teenagers to Grand Cayman every year to teach them how to scuba dive. For the second year in a row, the group also included a Caymanian high school student intern. For more, see page 5. - PHOTO: KELSEY JUKAM

Demand notices sent on dozens of properties

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Since the beginning of the year, demand notices have been issued by Cayman Islands financial institutions on 39 properties that hold a total of \$8.45 million in loans.
The properties, whether

businesses, homes or vacant land, are held in the names of 51 people. At the time the demand notices were issued, they were \$839,970.91 in arrears.
Of the properties where loans were in arrears, 17 were in George Town, 12 were in Bodden Town, eight were in West Bay and two were in North Side.

The total of 41 loans for the 39 properties in arrears represents a much larger number than the completed foreclosures reported by Cayman Islands government officials earlier in the year.
However, the government's numbers were based on a different situation. In the first

three months of this year, the government reported that 17 home and business foreclosures had been "completed," whereas in the cases of the 39 properties, most would not be considered completed foreclosures.
Completed foreclosures include only the cases in
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OVERALL CRIME DROPS; SHARP RISE IN BURGLARIES

Fatal accidents spike in 2015

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Burglaries and attempted burglaries continue to be the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service's primary stumbling block in reducing crime in the islands.
Crime statistics released for the first half of 2015 show overall crime reports to police declined by nearly 10 percent compared to the first six months of 2014. Most categories of violent crime showed decreases as well, with the exception of murder and assaults causing grievous bodily harm.
However, burglaries went up by 16 percent during the period, and attempted break-ins increased by more than 70 percent. More than 300 burglaries were committed during the first half of 2015, leading to a 14 percent rise in what local police record as "serious" crime.
RCIPS Chief Superintendent Kurt Walton said police responded to the increase in break-ins with a "steady pace of arrests."
"During the first six months, we arrested 76 people, up 12 percent from arrests during the same period last year," Mr. Walton said.
In one case investigated by police, the person arrested was believed to have been responsible for 10 burglaries alone. It's a common theme police have reported over the years: a spike in crimes following the release of "career" burglars from prison.
In recent days, RCIPS officers responded to four burglaries in George Town during the pre-dawn hours when the power had been cut to the businesses involved. Three companies on
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