

# T Caymanian Times

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Issue No 324

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## CIG

### Supports Red Cross Appeal for Funding

As part of its ongoing commitment to promote a safer and more resilient country, Government has announced its plan to support the Cayman Islands Red Cross (CIRC) in its appeal for funding to ensure the continuity of the organisation's critical services to the community.

In July 2018 the CIRC officially launched the 'Shelter from the Storm Appeal,' (the Appeal), with a preliminary target of raising \$600,000 towards the cost to carry out immediate and essential remedial renovations to the CIRC Headquarters building to ensure compliance with current building codes, and provide a safe space for both staff and the various clients that it serves.



► Minister Tara Rivers & CIRC Director Jondo Obi at Headquarters Building

Corporate donors and individuals within the community have pledged their support towards the Appeal. Initial construction work on the building commenced in September 2018 and is scheduled to continue through the first half of 2019.

"Following a presentation to the Government by the Director of the Cayman Islands Red Cross and mem-

... Continued story on page 6

## Cars and Coffee



Full story on page 3 >>

## Simply Queen to headline at Taste of Cayman

The Taste of Cayman Food and Drink festival organisers have announced this year's live entertainment who will take to the Main Stage at the 31st annual food festival on Saturday, January 26, 2019.

The headline act at the Cayman Islands Tourism Association's (CITA's) largest annual fundraiser has been an-

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► Taste of Cayman crowd

### WEATHER FORECAST



79°/76°F

Mostly sunny

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Governor joins Beach Cleanup Team



Cayman National has 23 ATMs conveniently located through the Cayman Islands. The newest one is at the East End Post Office, and there are more to come.

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# EDITORIAL

## Helping Hands

If you or your relatives have spent any time in a hospital, you will soon realize that the doctors and specialist have a team of supporters that are often forgotten.

Our feature story "Forgotten Heroes" by Flynn Bush shines the spotlight on nurses' assistants.

Whenever someone is admitted to the hospital, there are a number of types of personnel that are deployed to help. As stated before, some are more obvious than others. The Nursing Assistants are usually the persons that come into your room, help you to feel more comfortable, cheer you up a bit, and lift your spirits, all while taking care of their duties.

They are also the ones that perform those 'not so nice' tasks in order to maintain a sanitary environment.



The Cayman Islands has been known for its banking industry, but as we grow older we wish that the healthcare industry had grown just as fast.

There are many employment opportunities that still exist in the healthcare industry and in light of the unemployment numbers here at home we encourage our Caymanian youth to consider a vocation in healthcare.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Two Weeks Left to Give Feedback

The public has two weeks left to give their input on the National Planning Framework. The period to submit your feedback ends on Monday, 28 January 2019.

The document can be found on [www.plan cayman.ky](http://www.plan cayman.ky), and feedback can be submitted through the website as well.

The National Planning Framework sets out the long-term goals for land use and physical development, as part of the Development Plan for Grand Cayman. The document covers a number of areas of interest including land use, the natural



environment, transportation, infrastructure, recreation and open spaces.

## National Housing Trust Breaks Ground in East End

The second phase of the National Housing Development Trust's Affordable Housing Initiative is moving to the East End community. Members of the public are invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 17 January 2019. The venue is the Affordable Housing site off John McLean Drive, behind East End Primary School.



# MOTIVATIONAL TIP

## Turning Disappointment into Success

Have you ever been let down? Every day of our life will not be perfect and you may be disappointed when things don't work out the way you want them to. It is even worse when it is out of your control.

I do believe that things happen for a purpose and if you look hard and wait long enough the positive outcome will be revealed to you. Think outside the box. Look at your disappointment from a different perspective. Accept them. They may eventually work towards your benefit.



Maintaining a positive attitude at all times will result in true success despite disappointments and failures.

## Christmas tree Recycling Program Extended

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) has extended its natural Christmas tree recycling program through Thursday, 24 January 2019.


The DEH reminds residents to remove all wires and ornaments from Christmas trees before placing them in collection bins at the following locations:

- Ed Bush Stadium, West Bay
  - George Town Cricket Field
  - George Town Landfill public drop-off area
  - Spots Dock, Savannah
  - The entrance of Frank Sound Rd
- Free mulch will now be made available to the public at the George Town



Cricket Field on Saturday, 26 January 2019 at approximately 8 am.

For additional information on the Christmas tree recycling, please contact DEH by telephone at 949-6696 or by email at [dehcustomerservice@gov.ky](mailto:dehcustomerservice@gov.ky).



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## Caymanian Times

Issue # 324

Publisher: Ralph Lewis  
 Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd  
 #19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)  
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# Coffee and cars at Tortuga Rum

It was a rainy morning, but then the sun came out, along with the most beautiful, classic cars on the island. Cayman Islands Classics and Hot Rod Club had got together with Mr. Robert Hamarty, owner of Tortuga Rum in George Town (and who has a lovely dark gold 76 Mercedes ). Everyone enjoyed the cars, and some fellowship, and coffee and a patty too.

Classic, gleaming Beauty after classic gleaming beauty rolled into the parking lot, where coffee, patties and other cakes were being served. Some of the cars had been restored to perfection. Others were still in the process. But they

all made a beautiful spectacle, shining in the sun. People came to see them, and admire the beautiful chrome and steel of the lovingly restored V-8 and Straight - 8 engines, the ornate grills, fenders, headlamps...." Everybody loves classic cars.

Anthony Echenique explained how the new club got started: "We are a bunch of friends that had classics and hot rods and we decided to get the car club together, as it would give us more of an opportunity to show our cars. There's a lot of money invested in these cars. We are trying to do an event every other month or something

like We also want someone to sponsor us and we like go ahead and do la roll out and we donate the sponsorship to a charity."

Mr. Echenique bought his 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air. There's a limited only five thousand 57s were made in this color," he said. "The car was my grandfathers. This was his dream car. He's still alive and this was a big bond between me and him this car. He loved this car and he gave it to me and you know, he said; he was older when he was able to get it, and I am younger and I am able to enjoy it more. This is what he wanted me to do with it and

this is one of the reasons why I wanted to start the club."

"It's a 1952 Buick," said proud owner Danny O'Hara, about his magnificent black car. "I bought it from a friend of mine here in Cayman who bought it up in the States. The seats are original; everything is original."

Another beautiful Chevy, a bright red 1957 2-door sedan rolled in next, with Victor Thompson at the wheel. I actually bought it 34 years ago in Tampa. You never stop working on them - it's just something to do all the time. It's an expensive hobby but you never get sick of them," he said. 🌐



► Beautiful classic cars at Tortuga Rum

# Simply Queen to headline at Taste of Cayman

... Continued story from page 1

nounced as Simply Queen – an international Queen tribute band from Canada.

Once again, Taste of Cayman will also be supporting local talent at the 2019 festival. Accompanying the tribute act will be a line-up of local bands, including The Neverines and Beneil Miller & the Fyah Squad Band.

Simply Queen will be performing the iconic songs that made Queen one of the greatest rock bands of all time. The tribute faithfully recreates the huge scope of Queen's legendary live shows, both musically and visually, with great attention to detail, from the on-point guitar riffs to the band's iconic costumes.

Fronted by Freddie Mercury impersonator, Rick Rock, Simply Queen also boasts guitarist Bob Wegner, who was personally hand-picked by Queen's Bryan May and Roger Taylor to play the guitar in several productions of the award-winning 'We Will Rock You' musical in Toronto.

"We are all very excited for this year's entertainment lineup. Opening with a selection of great local acts, our headliner this year, Simply Queen, is an awesome choice for music that appeals to all ages and genres," said Ms. Julie Allan, Chair of the Taste of Cayman Committee and member of the CITA Executive Committee. "Everyone knows a song to sing along to by Queen. With the popularity of the recent, award-winning Bohemian Rhapsody movie, I believe Queen fans are being renewed worldwide!" said Ms. Allan.

"The entertainment at Taste of Cayman is always a real highlight," said Mrs Lynne Byles, Managing Director of Tow-



► Simply Queen Promo 1 2018

er, organisers of the event. "I'm a huge Queen fan and truly can't wait for our amazing tribute act, as well as the local talent take to the stage at this year's festival."

Taste of Cayman's entertainment isn't the only showstopper of the night. The event brings Cayman's favourite restaurants and bars together for one evening, with each vendor showcasing their best

food and drink to around 5,000 festival goers.

As well as welcoming back crowd favourites such as the Heavy Cake competition, the Save the Date VIP Area and the Demo Stage, the festival has evolved once again for 2019, with new exciting line-ups in the Experience Room and the first annual Cayman Style Beef competi-

The live entertainment is in addition to the enhanced All Things Cayman Area, which will provide an additional platform for showcasing local talent, including everything from music to craft.

Taste of Cayman 2019 is proudly sponsored by AI Rentals, Save The Date, Camana Bay, Hurley's Media, Tower, Flava, CUC and Home Gas.

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**VENUE:** Harquail Theater  
**TIME:** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**SATURDAY | 26 JANUARY | CMEA HEROES SALUTE | C\$10**  
CMEA salutes this year's Heroes day awardees with music and dance.  
**VENUE:** Havana Club  
**TIME:** 7:00 PM - 12:00 AM

**SUNDAY | 27 JANUARY | CMEA MUZAIC AWARDS | C\$10**  
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**TIME:** 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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# Wellness Centre celebrates first BCBA Certified Caymanian

Samantha Sampang-McCoy has become the first Caymanian to earn her Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA).

The BCBA is a graduate-level certification in behaviour analysis whose holders are qualified independent practitioners who provide behaviour-analytic services.

Ms. Sampang-McCoy joined The Wellness Centre as an Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Therapist in 2013 after graduating with her BSc in Psychology and Health Studies at the University of Toronto. In 2015 she headed to Boston, Massachusetts where she earned a MEd in Special Education and Applied Behaviour Analysis.

"I am beyond proud of Samantha. She's a pioneer in the field of ABA in the Cayman Islands. I've always been committed to ensuring that The Wellness Centre is a place where young Caymanians can develop their skills and advance their careers; to see Sam reach this goal is a very proud moment for all of us," said Wellness Centre Director Shannon Seymour.

"With her BCBA qualification, Samantha now moves into the role of Clinical Case Manager, where she will provide clinical leadership for our growing team," Mrs Seymour said, adding "Samantha is a role model for our entire team, particularly our young Caymanians who see in her that anything is possible with hard work and belief in yourself."

Ms. Sampang-McCoy said she looked forward to spreading more awareness, collaborating with other professionals in the field and supporting families within our islands. "I want to thank the Wellness Centre, my parents Desiree Jacob and Frank McCoy, and the many other family and friends for their continued support along the way. With the right support network and dedication, anyone on these islands can achieve their goals."

The Wellness Centre, located at Cayman Business Park on Elgin Avenue, is a private clinical practise offering a wide range of mental health, psychological and behavioural services for individuals of all ages. For further information contact info@wellnesscentre.ky. 🌐



▶ Samantha Sampang-McCoy becomes first Caymanian to earn BCBA

# Governor Martyn Roper volunteers at Beach Clean Up with Miss World Cayman

Environmentalism in 2019 started strong with the island's first monthly beach clean organized by Plastic Free Cayman and Red Sail Sports.

Saturday's early morning Barefoot Beach event in East End drew more than 70 volunteers. Among the group was his Excellency, Governor Martyn Roper, Miss World Cayman, Kelsie Woodman-Bodden and American Environmental Activist Casson Trenor. Additionally, volunteers from CUC, and tourists visiting from the UK teamed up with local residents to help remove over 900 pounds of marine debris.

Of the trash collected, 90% of it was plastic pollution from various sources. Over 20 pounds of plastic bottle caps were collected. These were separated and donated to STOK'D who continue to create elaborate art displays for various events in Cayman.

Most shockingly though, several buckets collected, filled to the top with small bits of Styrofoam continue to showcase the growing problem this toxic material plays in our local ecosystems. Much of the Styrofoam was extracted from the shoreline, but many



smaller bits still remain in the sargassum, as microplastics are difficult to remove.

The event also consisted of two key inquiry stations. The first was manned by student experts, Richard Weber, Jack Paolini and Mikayla Corin, who educated all volunteers on the dangers of plastic pollution, as they promoted

Plastic Free Cayman's "345 Pledge". The second station was organized by Kaaboo representatives to promote sustainability initiatives and recruit volunteers to help with recycling efforts during the upcoming February event.

Saturday's monthly beach clean highlighted the power of government, busi-

nesses, schools, residents, artists and environmentalists coming together to improve a community issue and raise awareness around a global problem. Plastic Free Cayman will be partnering with Parley, the DOE and CCMi on February 2nd and 3rd to host two Little Cayman beach clean up events. All are welcome to attend. 🌐

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# CIG Supports Red Cross Appeal for Funding

... Continued story from page 1

bers of its Building Committee, the Cabinet approved funding to support the CIRC's appeal," Minister for FSHA, Hon. Tara Rivers, said.

"The Cayman Islands Red Cross is a key stakeholder in Government's national disaster management strategy, and we are fortunate to have a dedi-

cated organisation like this that stands ready to respond to critical incidents, and provide support and aid when needed," Minister Rivers explained. "The facility operates as a primary hurricane shelter and is the first shelter to open in the event of an emergency, so ensuring that it is fully operational is critical to the safety and wellbeing of the community."

Through a collaborative partnership with a local private charitable foundation, \$450,000 will be contributed towards the Appeal. "With the generous support of this Government, local charities, businesses and members of the community, the Cayman Islands Red Cross can continue to provide shelter, training and other critical services to those in need," CIRC Director, Jondo Obi, said.

Minister Rivers concluded: "We are extremely happy to support charitable organisations, especially one like the CIRC that has provided essential services in the Cayman Islands for more than 30 years."

The CIRC aims to have its headquarters building open and ready to once again serve as a national shelter by 1 June 2019. 🌐

# Government Welcomes Results of OAG Report

Government's efforts to develop a national framework to prevent fraud and corruption is highly praised in the Auditor General's recent report "Fighting Corruption in the Cayman Islands."

The report assesses the effectiveness of mechanisms put in place by government to prevent corruption, including the passing of legislation such as the Anti-Corruption Law, the creation of anti-corruption bodies, and the development and strengthening of policies and procedures. The Anti-Corruption Commission is noted for the significant role it plays in the fight against fraud and corruption.

"As the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) itself has recognised, the Civil Service has instituted a zero tolerance approach to corruption and has a proven track record of referring cases of corruption to the Anti-Corruption Commission," the Deputy Governor remarks.

"Over the years we have implemented a range of legislation and established Government bodies to help us protect

the integrity of the service. These findings provide an opportunity for us to continue to evolve our response to this challenge which every jurisdiction faces to ensure that we are as effective as possible."

The Auditor General notes that she "is pleased" with the progress Government has made, but notes that these measures do not mean the Cayman Islands is completely free from fraud and corruption.

To further strengthen government's efforts to combat fraud, the Deputy Governor has appointed the Accountant General to be responsible for coordinating a review of the Anti-Fraud Policy by Chief Financial Officers on an annual basis, or within 30 days of any significant organisational change. Following each review, the Accountant General will report back on the outcomes and any proposed changes to ensure the policy is regularly updated.



► Deputy Governor Franz Manderson

• Exploring the extension of the list of designated authorities to whom whistle-blowers can turn.

The report also examined efforts made by the Department of Planning to prevent corruption to prevent fraud in the construction industry, because of the key role the sector plays in the economy.

"We are always seeking ways to improve the work we do and the service we provide to the people of the Cayman Islands," notes the Department

of Planning Director Haroon Pandohie. "The recommendations made by the OAG to strengthen processes have been considered and taken on board. We've started the work of developing the necessary policies and procedure, and will continue to encourage and support the Central Planning Authority and the Development Control Board in its efforts to improve transparency." 🌐

Other actions set to be taken include:

- The formation of an Audit and Risk Assurance Committee,
- A proposal to seek Cabinet's support to extend the Anti-Fraud Policy to statutory authorities and government-owned companies,
- Seeking other avenues to administer anti-fraud training that will complement the online offering,

# PRIESTLEYS BUILDS PRACTICE WITH NEW HIRE

Cayman Islands law firm, Priestleys, has announced the appointment of Laura Birrell as an associate attorney.

Laura joins Priestleys from the U.K., where she was previously in-house general counsel at Bovis Homes Group PLC, a FTSE 250 UK residential house builder and property developer. Laura specialises in real estate law but is also experienced in corporate, regulatory and commercial law.

Daniel Priestley, managing partner of Priestleys, commented: "Laura has broad experience and technical expertise in all aspects of property law - including property development, financing and investment. Laura has a real understanding of the commercial issues that face clients and she brings a prag-

matic and cost-effective approach to her work."

Laura added: "I am delighted to join Priestleys and am very much looking forward to helping Daniel and the team build on the successes of our well-regarded commercial and property practices particularly with the property market in Cayman being so active. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges in Cayman."

Laura studied Law at the University of Dundee in Scotland and qualified in 2009. She went on to practise as a solicitor with Eversheds in Edinburgh before becoming dual qualified in English law. Laura worked for Burges Salmon and Ashfords prior to joining Bovis Homes Group as in-house general counsel. 🌐



► Laura Birrell, associate attorney, Priestleys

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GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

## Pizza helps Americans bite the bullet

Canadian air traffic controllers are buying pizzas for their American counterparts as a show of support during the US government's partial shutdown.

Nav Canada's national media manager Ron Singer said the initiative began when employees at Edmonton's control centre took up a collection to buy pies for controllers in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Anchorage, Alaska.

All seven of Canada's control centres and many towers have since joined in and ordered pizzas for their American counterparts working along the border, many of whom have taken to social media to express their gratitude.

Singer said there's a bond between Canadian and American air traffic controllers since they work closely together to manage cross-border airspace.

Some 10,000 air traffic controllers in the United States have been working



► Canadians are sending pizzas to the US

without pay since late December due to the ongoing government shutdown.

Their union filed a lawsuit in federal court in Washington on Friday, asking for an order compelling the government to pay them what they're owed.

US President Donald Trump wants \$5.7 billion to build a border wall with Mexico and says he won't put through a bill to cover the cost of operating parts of the government until he gets it. The Democrats have put forward a funding bill, but don't support the wall. 🌐

## Hondurans set for another US trek

Hondurans wishing to flee the poverty and criminal-ravaged country are planning another caravan of migrants trying to reach a better life in the United States.

Mexican authorities will meet with Central American officials to prepare for the arrival of a planned new caravan of migrants headed to the US next week.

The head of Mexico's immigration office, Tonatiuh Guillen, left on Wednesday on a trip to El Salvador and Honduras to meet with his counterparts and other authorities.

Mexico hopes to discourage a mass exodus from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and wants Central Americans who decide to migrate north to do so in an orderly way and through legal ports of entry.

"The doors to Mexico are open to anyone who wants to enter in an orderly fashion," said Interior Ministry



► Hondurans plan to march to the US again

spokesman Hector Gandini. "But whoever wants to come in illegally will be deported."

Previous Central American caravans became a flashpoint in the debate over US immigration policy.

That was intensified by the recent deaths of two migrant children in American custody and a partial US government shutdown over President Donald Trump's demand for \$5.7 billion in funding for a wall along the border with Mexico. 🌐

## Miss Universe expected in Manila soon

Beauty pageants in the Philippines are a huge part of their culture so it's not surprising that they cannot wait for their newly crowned Miss Universe to return home from winning the title.

Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray expressed excitement over her upcoming grand homecoming to the Philippines, probably in February.

"Sobrang excited ako to really celebrate with Filipinos because I haven't had that chance yet to celebrate the win," Gray said. "I'm looking forward to

my homecoming so much. I know that it will be such a celebration with so much joy and I just can't wait," she added.

Asked about the gowns she would wear for her homecoming, Miss Gray said she has not been told about the concept yet, but she would also coordinate with her team. They are expected to be even grander than her Miss Universe evening gowns praised on social media.

The 25-year-old Australia-born beauty lifted the title last month in Thailand

for her Filipino mum Normita's home country.

She is hoping to visit Scotland with her Scottish dad Ian, 75, who emigrated Down Under almost 70 years ago.

Winning Miss Universe has granted her rock star status and even Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte was quick to congratulate her.

Now Catriona — who relocated to New York last week — wants to use her fame to help others less fortunate than her.



► Catriona Gray is the newly crowned Miss Universe

She earned a round of applause in the final round of Miss Universe when she described her work in the slums of the Philippine capital Manila. 🌐

## Brits warned to eat more fibre

Britons are being encouraged to eat more fibre in their diets to improve their chances of avoiding serious health problems like heart disease, strokes and diabetes.

Eating more fibre reduces the chances of debilitating heart attacks and strokes as well as life-long diseases such as type-2 diabetes. And it helps keep weight, blood pressure and cholesterol levels down. These are the findings from a new research.

"The evidence is now overwhelming and eating more fibre is a game-changer that people have to start doing something about it," one of the researchers, Prof John Cummings, said.

It's well known for stopping constipation - but its health benefits are much broader than that.

The researchers, at the University of Otago, in New Zealand, and the University of Dundee say people should be eating a minimum of 25g of fibre per day.

But they call this an "adequate" amount for improving health and say there are benefits for pushing past 30g (1oz).



► Brits need to eat more fibre

A banana on its own weighs about 120g but that's not pure fibre. Strip out everything else including all the natural sugars and water, and only about 3g of fibre is left.

Most people around the world are eating less than 20g of fibre a day. And in the UK, fewer than one in 10 adults eats 30g of fibre daily. On average, women consume about 17g, and men 21g, a day.

Foods with most fibre in them are fruit and vegetables, some breakfast cereals, breads and pasta that use whole-grains, pulses such as beans, lentils and chickpeas, as well as nuts and seeds. 🌐

## Cuba targets Chinese tourists

Cuba plans to attract more Chinese visitors in 2019 considering the growing number of Chinese overseas tourists. Chinese tourists tend to spend well compared to other nations. There are also millions of them with deep pockets seeking to explore the globe.

"China currently ranks 14th as a tourism market for Cuba, as last year approximately 46,000 Chinese visitors came to our country, representing a 10 percent increase over 2017," Michel Bernal, director of the development sector at the Tourism Ministry (Mintur), said.

It plans to step up promotional campaigns in China about Cuba's varied destinations.

Mr Bernal said most Chinese travellers to Cuba arrive from nearby countries and not through the weekly Air China flights connecting Havana and Beijing with a stopover in Montreal, Canada.

The route inaugurated at the end of 2015 has seen low passenger rates, and Cuba wants to tackle the "challenge" of filling those empty airline seats, Mr Bernal said.



► Chinese tourists are heavy spenders

"We have created a working group at Mintur to improve flight schedules and passenger occupancy after talk with travel agencies and tour operators and promote Cuba as the most important destination in the Caribbean," he said, adding Cuba will also participate in relevant tourism fairs in China in 2019.

"We currently have tour guides who speak Chinese, which is very important, and at several hotels in Havana, managers that work directly with tour operators who speak Mandarin."

Chinese companies are among the leading foreign partners in Cuba's tourism sector, with investments exceeding \$700 million. 🌐

# Holder upbeat for England series

West Indies captain Jason Holder has called the upcoming England Test tour as a "big series" and says he hopes his side can replicate the fight they showed on their fierce rivals' last tour of the Caribbean four years ago when they drew the three-match series.

England arrived in Barbados for the three-Test rubber which bowls off at Kensington Oval on Jan. 23. Ironically, the last time the two teams met at the venue in the final Test of the 2015 tour, the Windies pulled off a stunning five-wicket victory inside three days to force a 1-1 series stalemate.

"An England series is a big series in the context of West Indies cricket," Holder said.

"The last time they were here it was a pretty well-fought series. We came out with a draw in the end and there were

big crowds, massive support both from England and the Caribbean, so I expect something similar this year and hopefully we can lift the trophy."

History will not be on the Windies side, however. In their last 12 Tests against England at home, they have won just two, while losing four and drawing six.

And in the last two decades, West Indies have won just two series against England, leaving the odds in the upcoming series stacked firmly in the visitors' favour.

Despite this, Holder believes the series presented the ideal chance for the Windies to match their talents against the world number two Test side.

"It's obviously a wonderful opportunity to play against one of the top teams in the world," the all-rounder pointed out.

"They're just coming off a really good series win against Sri Lanka. We obviously played Sri Lanka last home series and we had a pretty good tour there. I'm really looking forward to the challenge.

"England is obviously one of the better teams in Test cricket around the world and it would be really good to beat them on our home tour."

West Indies will need a dramatic turnaround in form to upset England. Last year, they won three of nine Tests while losing five. In their last two away tours, their whitewashed 2-0 by India and Bangladesh, respectively.

Holder pointed out that while there had been some excellent individual performances over the last year, the time had come for the Windies to play consistently as a team.

"I would just like us to do a lot better collectively," the 27-year-old Barbadian said. "We've had a lot of individual success within the last two years, so I just think it is a matter of time before we put together the collective effort and hopefully lift this trophy at the end of the series."

"We've shown we can beat top sides in the world and we have shown we can compete against top sides in the world. It's a matter for us to be more consistent, especially in our batting. I back our bowling attack to bowl out England."

The tour also comprises five One-Day Internationals and three Twenty20 Internationals and runs until March 10. Form and results are especially crucial in this season as both teams prepare for the World Cup in England in the summer.



► Jason Holder expects a series win against England

West Indies' strongest point is their opening bowling, while England's weakest point is their opening batting. Both Kumar Roach and Shannon Gabriel are formidable operators in their own conditions - Roach 106 Test wickets at 23 each at home, and Gabriel 70 wickets at only 21 - so Rory Burns and Keaton Jennings will be ready for the Ashes if they become consistent run-scorers in this coming series.

One of the two main West Indian weaknesses has been the lack of a third fast bowler who can back up Roach and Gabriel. Holder bowls tidily but only averages two and a half wickets per Test, so he is in effect a fourth seamer operating as third, with Devendra Bishoo the spinner. Roach and Gabriel are thus over-bowled, their risk of breaking down increased. 🌐



► Kemar Roach is a key fast bowler, when not injured

## Messi reaches 400 club

Lionel Messi was only voted fifth best player in the world recently, but even at 31 the brilliant Argentinian has not lost any potency.

He scored his 400th La Liga goal on Sunday as Barcelona beat Eibar at the Nou Camp to regain their five-point lead at the top of the table.

Messi, the all-time leading scorer in the Spanish top flight, finished into the bottom corner for Barca's second in the 3-0 victory. The landmark goal comes in the Argentine's 435th league game. Luis Suarez scored the other two goals. The victory takes Barcelona five points clear of second-placed Atletico Madrid.

Messi is the second player to score 400 goals across Europe's top five

leagues, following Cristiano Ronaldo whose 409 league strikes in 507 games came in England, Spain and Italy. Messi has reached 400 times 63 games quicker than Ronaldo reached the same milestone.

It also extends his lead as La Liga's all-time leading record scorer with Juventus' Ronaldo second having scored 311 times in 292 games at Real Madrid and Telmo Zarra, who scored 251 La Liga goals third.

Messi has scored against 37 different teams in La Liga, the most by a player in the competition history. Sevilla is the club he has scored against the most with 25 goals in 24 games against them. 🌐



► Lionel Messi's scoring record is phenomenal

## Doncic, 19, is clutch king

When an NBA game is on the line, you want the ball in the hands of your team's best player. For the Dallas Mavericks, that player happens to be a 19-year-old rookie.

Luka Doncic is only trailing LeBron James in All-Star voting for the Western Conference, and it's easy to see why. He capped a phenomenal week on Friday by taking over a road game in Minnesota to beat the Timberwolves, scoring seven of the Mavericks' final nine points.

After scoring on two clutch drives to the basket, Doncic hit a deep three-pointer just a few seconds into the shot clock to put Dallas ahead by one. He finished the game with 29 points, 12 assists and eight rebounds.

Doncic is averaging 20 points, 6.7 rebounds and five assists on the season - but he's taken his game to another level this week. In his last three games against the Lakers, Suns and Timberwolves, Doncic has averaged 28.6 points, 7 rebounds, 6.3 assists and 1.6 steals per game. He's also proven to be one of the most clutch players in the league as a rookie.

He has a better shooting percentage than players of the calibre of James Harden and Kevin Durant in clutch situations.

Doncic was a surprisingly polarising prospect in the 2018 NBA Draft. Much of the collective debate was centred on how the 6ft 8in wing's play in EuroLe-



► Luka Doncic has been a rookie sensation

ague would translate to the NBA. Though he was arguably the most accomplished teenage draft hopeful ever, with MVPs and championships in leagues widely considered to be more competitive than the NCAA, Doncic was tied down by the weight of his failed European predecessors.

We'll never know exactly how much of a role Doncic's European background played in the Phoenix Suns, Sacramento Kings, and Atlanta Hawks passing on him with the first three picks of the NBA Draft. But the stigma that Europeans are destined to become NBA lottery busts still exists, and even the Slovenian teenager couldn't fully overcome that on draft day. But he certainly has now.

Doncic is no bust. It's January, and the Rookie of the Year award - a small achievement for an already two-time championship-winning MVP - is already his. 🌐



# SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

## Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/26

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### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Acting student's major
- 6 Summer spot for some
- 10 Less common
- 11 Body pump
- 13 Deal maker
- 14 Goof
- 15 Marsh
- 16 Descartes' conclusion
- 18 "Give — rest!"
- 19 Changed
- 22 Have lunch
- 23 Theater award
- 24 Give rise to
- 27 Get to one's feet
- 28 Pennsylvania
- 29 First número
- 30 Made Earth-like, as a planet
- 35 Make a choice
- 36 Court
- 37 In the style of
- 38 Animal life
- 40 Check writer
- 42 Bran offering

### DOWN

- 43 Precise
- 44 Owner's document
- 45 Body shop challenges
- 1 Current of air
- 2 Wild party
- 3 Sports site
- 4 Chess pieces
- 5 Craftsman
- 6 Prefix with receptor or therapy
- 7 Oxygen: Prefix
- 8 Xylophone relative
- 9 Nutritional need
- 12 Bartered
- 17 Back, on a boat
- 20 More original
- 21 Copter part
- 24 Start a journey
- 25 Like some phone cards
- 26 Trachea, informally
- 27 Was nosy
- 29 Alien craft
- 31 Oscar or Tony
- 32 Yucatan native
- 33 Vote in
- 34 Pub game
- 39 Maiden name label
- 41 Logger's tool

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		
							11			12	
10											
								14			
13											
					16	17			18		
15											
19			20					21			
					22				23		
24	25	26					27				
28						29					
30					31				32	33	34
35					36					37	
38				39				40	41		
42								43			
	44							45			

6-18



## Word Search

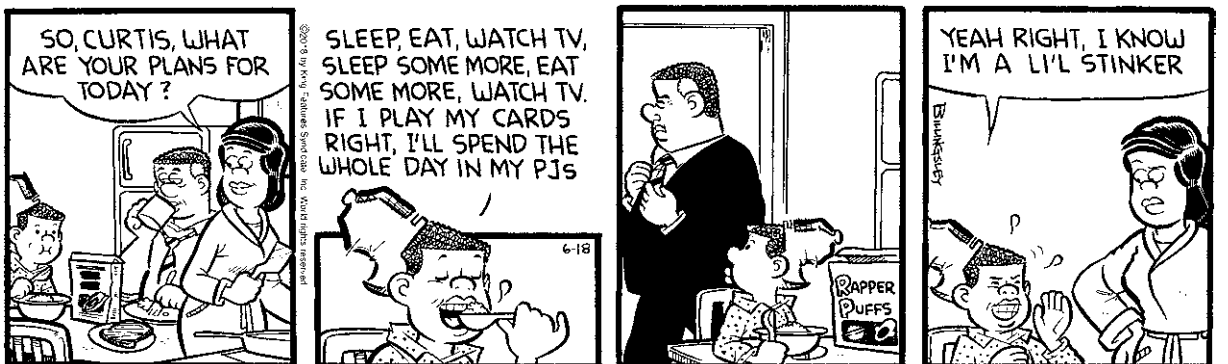
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E	O	T	L	T	M	B	L	T	V	B	B	R	O	C
S	L	B	E	J	U	W	O	B	M	U	Y	E	B	E
C	D	B	B	B	A	B	E	B	B	B	R	R	B	L
R	D	I	B	I	B	B	S	L	B	I	U	V	L	B
M	E	U	C	A	R	R	B	O	B	B	N	E	E	B
Y	H	H	W	O	B	B	L	E	B	B	L	L	R	A
Y	F	S	T	U	B	B	L	E	R	B	E	E	W	G
B	H	G	E	Y	O	O	R	W	B	Y	L	P	T	E
B	E	E	G	E	B	L	H	O	N	B	D	C	L	R
H	L	P	A	B	B	B	H	O	B	S	A	B	A	R
E	B	P	B	B	I	H	B	I	I	B	B	A	Q	
R	B	H	B	A	N	B	U	B	L	U	B	B	E	R
A	O	T	A	G	I	Q	I	D	B	I	L	E	V	I
B	B	D	C	G	M	O	U	C	T	I	E	P	U	B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, back, up, down and diagonally.

- |         |          |         |         |
|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| Abbey   | Cabbage  | Hubbub  | Ribbon  |
| Abbot   | Cobbler  | Jabber  | Rubber  |
| Babble  | Cribbage | Lobby   | Stubble |
| Blubber | Dabble   | Nibble  | Wobble  |
| Bobbin  | Gabble   | Pebble  |         |
| Bobble  | Gibbon   | Quibble |         |
| Bubble  | Hobble   | Rabbit  |         |

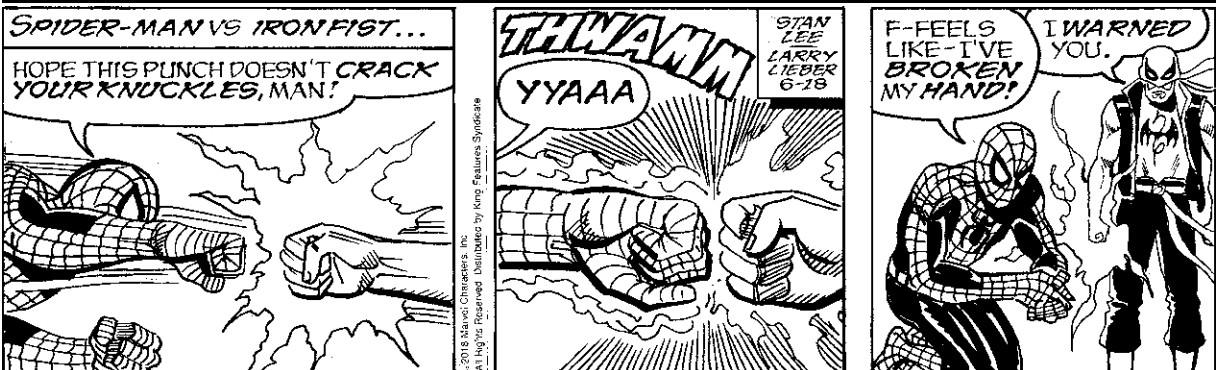
## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



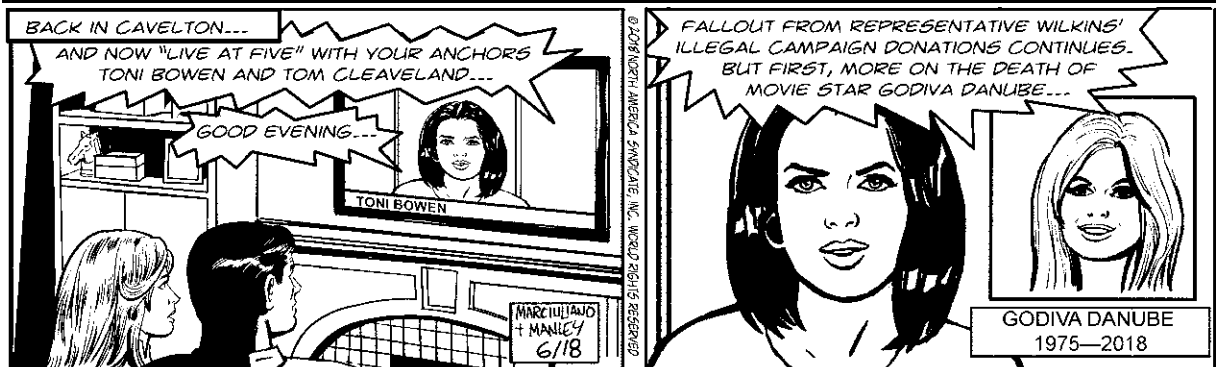
## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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