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## RCIPS Recruitment Fair focuses on Caymanians



► It was a chance to find out exactly what life in the RCIPS was like

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## Cayman Islands Regiment Scoping Exercise Underway



Following the visit to the Cayman Islands of Minister for Armed Forces, Mark Lancaster last month, a Ministry of Defence team has arrived in the islands to help support and advise on how to set up a military Regiment.

Commander Con Burns, Major Rennie Bulmer and Major Ed Dutton are all members of the UK military and met key stakeholders, including the Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, and Home Affairs Minister Tara Rivers, during their three-day visit.

They spent time with the Hazard Management Cayman Islands, Cayman Islands Red Cross, the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps, the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service, and the Cayman Islands Fire Service, as well as meeting and speaking to former Cadet Corps

... Continued story on page A4

## Another safe hurricane season for Cayman

November 30th marks the end of the hurricane season for 2019 and with a sigh of relief the residents of the Cayman Islands are thankful that we were spared again this year.

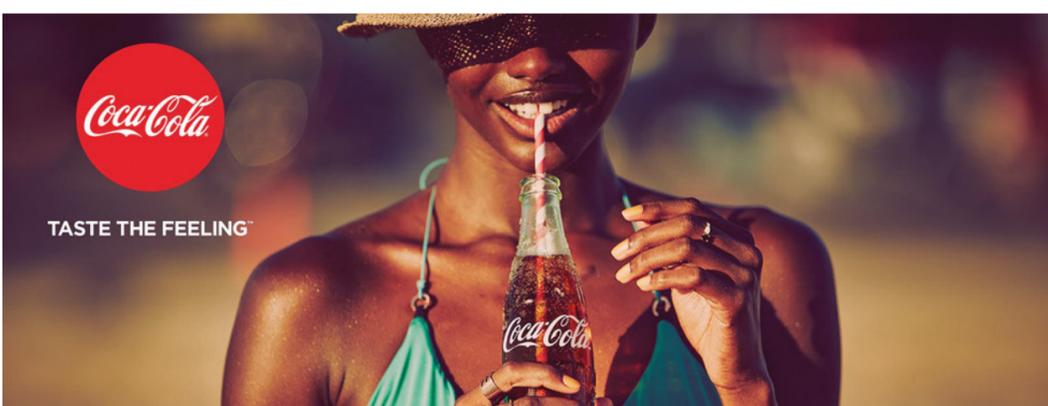
Living in paradise has its risks and amidst the clear blue waters and warm temperatures the occasional tropical system will arrive with its strong winds and devastating ocean surges. It is not a question of "if" but "when". We must always be prepared and pay close attention to flooding when we are purchasing/building our home or even purchasing a vehicle.

According to Wikipedia, The 2019 Atlantic hurricane season is an ongoing event in the annual formation of tropical cyclones in the Northern Hemisphere and also the fourth consecutive year of above-average and damaging seasons dating back to 2016, although many of the



► High waves from a Norwester in George Town

... Continued story on page A3



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# COMMUNITY VOICE

## The cruise ships will not introduce their own transportation on island says Tourism Minister

Minister of Tourism and Deputy Premier Mr. Moses Kirkconnel confirmed today that the current situation regarding local ownership and operation of taxis and other transportation for cruise ship passengers will remain the same.

"We have recently had a question regarding whether the cruise ships will operate their own vehicles on island to transport passengers to local attractions and the simple answer to that is a resounding no", said the Minister.

"In order to ensure that our local taxi and other transportation businesses benefit, all transportation opportunist are strictly reserved for local operators" he added.

Members of the taxi and transportation sector were very pleased to hear of Minister Kirkconnel's confirmation.

"They are upgrading our Cargo/Cruise, the relocation of corals better for the environment and then staying in port longer. This would inject more capital for transportation, shops, restaurants and local watersports operators. There will also be better parking for the taxis and tour operators. I think this is a Win, Win for the Caymanian People. And as a Generational Caymanian I am Voting "YES" for the Piers" said Ms. Paula Swaby Ebanks, a recognized leader who has spent many years working in the Cayman Islands taxi and tour operators industry.

The Minister says the government has been making extra efforts since being able to announce the preferred bidder, to get as much information to the community as possible.



► Minister of Tourism and Deputy Premier Mr. Moses Kirkconnel

"As a government we made a commitment to arrange several public meetings so everyone could obtain the information about the new port and cargo facility. But in addition to that we are also committed to addressing the concerns expressed to us as best as possible", he said.

The Minister explained that if the project receives approval to proceed based on the upcoming referendum, there will be additional efforts to ensure that remaining concerns are addressed.

"The concerns raised by environmentalists are also very important to us. We agree with them that the natural environment is one of this country's most valuable assets and we are going to do everything possible to strike a balance that protects jobs and opportunities for local businesses while minimizing any harm to our environment" said Mr. Kirkconnel.

### POLICE NEWS

## Fatal Accidents on Bodden Town roads

On Monday Police closed Anton Bodden Drive and Condor Drive in Bodden Town, due to a motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian, where the pedestrian succumbed to injuries he sustained. The incident took place just after 7PM Sunday evening when a member of the public reported that a man was found unresponsive in the vicinity of Leroy Fredericks Drive off Anton Bodden Drive and appears to have been struck by a vehicle.



It is believed that more than one vehicle was involved in the collision and all vehicles involved fled the scene.

Police are seeking the assistance of the public with information concerning this collision. Anyone with information is being asked to call the Bodden Town Police Station at 947-2220.

Also on Monday Police and other emergency services are currently on the scene of a serious motor vehicle

collision involving a school bus and a motorcyclist who later succumbed to his injuries.

The roadway was closed both ways between Northward Road and Condor Drive Bodden Town and with no diversions available in this area, officers worked quickly as possible to open the roadways.

The matters are under investigation and the roadway has been closed as a result. All motorists are being asked to use the main road. Only residence within Anton Bodden and Condor Drive will be allowed to exit the area while the road is closed.

## Man Sustained Serious Injury during Altercation in George Town

Just after 8:15AM on Thursday morning, 21 November, police and other emergency services were dispatched by the 9-1-1 Communication Centre, to a report of an assault involving weapons that was in progress on School Road, George Town.

It is believed that two men were engaged in an altercation which led to one of the men being struck in the head with an object several times, causing him severe injury. He was transported to the hospital by private vehicle.

The injured man is believed to be in critical condition and is still undergoing treatment.

Detectives are seeking the assistance of witnesses present during the time of the altercation to come forward and speak with them. Anyone with information on her whereabouts is encouraged to call George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website <https://www.rcips.ky/>. Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Miami-based call centre of Crime Stoppers at 800-8477(TIPS), or online <http://www.crimestoppers.ky/submit-tip/>.

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## COMMUNITY NOTICE

### NO WORK BEING CONDUCTED BY DR DAVID VAUGHAN & VERDANT ISLE PORT PARTNERS ON GRAND CAYMAN

This afternoon a social media post on Facebook is being circulated that accuses scientist Dr David Vaughan of Plant a Million Corals and coral restoration partner to Verdant Isle Port Partners of 'setting up coral tanks' and 'already setting up his laboratory'.

Dr David Vaughan, or anyone associated with Verdant Isle Port Partners Ltd, has not undertaken the building of any laboratory, coral tanks or any infrastructure at all in Grand Cayman.

All Verdant Isle Port Partners, its suppliers and consultants fully respect the Cayman Islands referendum process and no work will be carried out until the people of the Cayman Islands have



voted on the proposed port project and proper permits and licenses are in place.

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# Another safe hurricane season for Cayman

... Continued story from page A1

storms were weak and short-lived. With 18 named storms, the season is tied with 1969 for the fourth-most named storms since reliable records began in 1851. The season officially began on June 1 and will end on November 30. These dates historically describe the period each year when most tropical cyclones form in the Atlantic basin and are adopted by convention. However, tropical cyclogenesis is possible at any time of the year, as demonstrated by the formation of Subtropical Storm Andrea on May 20, marking the record fifth year in a row where a tropical or subtropical cyclone developed before the official start of the season, breaking the previous record of four years set in 1951-1954 ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019\\_Atlantic\\_hurricane\\_season#cite\\_note-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Atlantic_hurricane_season#cite_note-1)). This was also the second year in a row in which no tropical cyclones formed during the month of June.

The season's first hurricane, Barry, formed in mid-July in the northern Gulf

of Mexico and struck Louisiana. After five weeks of inactivity, the tropics began to ramp up in late August with a few storms developing, including Hurricane Dorian, which struck the Windward Islands and United States Virgin Islands as a strengthening tropical cyclone. Dorian then rapidly intensified into a Category 5 hurricane on approach to the Bahamas, where it devastated Great Abaco, Grand Bahama and surrounding Islands before proceeding up the Eastern Seaboard, where it also caused considerable damage.

In September, Hurricane Humberto brought heavy rains and hurricane-force winds to Bermuda, Tropical Storm Imelda quickly formed over the Gulf of Mexico before it made landfall in Texas, causing catastrophic flooding. Lorenzo became the easternmost Category 5 Atlantic hurricane on record, and the French ship Bourbon Rhode sank after sailing through it. With Dorian and Lorenzo, the season became the fourth consecutive season to feature at least one Category 5 hurricane (Matthew in 2016; Irma and



Maria in 2017 and Michael in 2018). It also became one of seven seasons to feature multiple Category 5 hurricanes.

In 6 months we will be welcoming another hurricane season with hopes and wishes for an uneventful period. We are not out of the woods yet. Nor-

wester season can also have significant weather events with high seas and cool temperatures. Many individuals blame climate change for these unusual weather events but one thing is certain, when the time arrives we will be at the mercy of the elements. 🌐



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## Christmas Lighting Safety Tip



*When decorating outside, make sure and use Christmas lights and extension cords that are designated for outdoor use only. If you use indoor-rated products, they may not be able to withstand the unpredictable weather conditions.*



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BLACK FRIDAY

# Cayman Islands Regiment Scoping Exercise Underway

... Continued story from page A1

members and volunteers about their thoughts on how the concept could be taken forward.

To begin with the team has been asked to identify what logistical advice, operational training, equipment and general

support the Cayman Islands would need from the UK to set up the Regiment.

It is envisaged that the specially trained defence force would provide a boost to security and disaster management capability in the Cayman Islands and would also be able to deploy to other Overseas Territories in times of need.

Premier McLaughlin said: "The idea of a local reserve force goes back some years now to the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan.

"A specially trained Cayman Islands Regiment will have a positive impact on youth development and leadership in our Islands. It will also give a boost to security and increase our resilience on disaster management and the support we can offer across the wider Caribbean.

"I look forward to receiving the report from Commander Burns, Major Bulmer, and Major Dutton following their conversations locally and once they have completed their recommendations on moving the initiative forward."

Head of the Governor's Office, Matthew Forbes, said: "We are pleased that Commander Burns and the team have been able to carry out this review so soon after the Minister's visit.



"This initial scoping will provide us with a roadmap to ensure that the Regiment can be formed and be effective as soon as possible.

"The Regiment's role in humanitarian and disaster relief will be a key area and it is important that HMCI and the CI Cadet Corps are fully involved with the design of the new unit."



# Cayman Fights Misuse of Our AML Regime

Government, regulators and the Cayman Islands private sector recently came together to better identify the risks of misusing legal persons and arrangements – such as companies, partnerships and trusts – as Cayman strengthens our fight against money laundering, terrorist financing and the financing of weapons of mass destruction.

About 150 persons attended the Friday, 8 November event, hosted by the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA) and the Anti-Money Laundering Unit. Five presenters explained the various risks in which Cayman could be misused for financial crime to the audience of lawyers, accountants, realtors, financial institutions, and trust and corporate services providers.

"It's important that as a jurisdiction, we consistently improve our knowledge and understanding of our risks," said Ms Elisabeth Lees, National Coordinator for Cayman's Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group (AMLSG).

By increasing the knowledge of our risks, Cayman is meeting recommended actions made by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force in its Mutual Evaluation Report of the Cayman Islands, published in March 2019. Cayman has until February 2020 to make positive and tangible progress toward the recommended actions.

Gabriele Dunker, Executive Director of Financial Transparency Advisors, an international consultancy that is supporting the Cayman Islands with responding



► Robert (RJ) Berry, Director of the Financial Reporting Authority (right), answers an audience member's question during an 8 November event, held to strengthen the Cayman Islands' fight against money laundering, terrorist financing and the financing of weapons of mass destruction. Panellists (L-R) are Gabriele Dunker, Executive Director of Financial Transparency Advisors; Lisa Maria Poelzer, an Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance lawyer who assisted Ms Dunker; Elisabeth Lees, National Coordinator for Cayman's Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group; and Mr Andy Spillsbury, from Tribridge Compliance Partners

to the recommended actions, noted the strong turnout for the event.

"The CFATF recommended actions can be quite abstract at times, and FTA is helping the Cayman Islands turn the recommended actions into tangible outcomes," she said.

The presenters used typologies – or, case studies – to demonstrate the practical application of Cayman's legal framework for AML/CFT/CPF (anti-money laundering; countering the financing of terrorism; and countering proliferation financing, which also is known as weapons of mass destruction).

Ms Dunker discussed how Cayman domiciled legal persons have been used

to commit financial crime, while Ms Lees explained how a legal person could become subject to criminal prosecution. Mr Robert (RJ) Berry, Director of the Financial Reporting Authority, spoke about the role of the anti-money laundering reporting officer.

Drawing on local case studies, Ms Angelina Partridge, CIMA's Acting Deputy General Counsel, provided a regulatory perspective on the misuse of legal persons; while Mr Andy Spillsbury from

Tribridge Compliance Partners demonstrated how professional money launderers actively sought to evade customer due diligence requirements in several jurisdictions around the world, including the Cayman Islands.

Ms Lees said that increasing the private sector's understanding of risks will strengthen our AML/CFT/CPF regime, deter and prevent criminals from abusing Cayman, and improve our local and international reputation.



► About 150 persons attended the 8 November 2019 event



► (From left) Lisa Maria Poelzer, an Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance lawyer who assisted Ms Gabriele Dunker, Executive Director of Financial Transparency Advisors with Cayman's 8 November event; Justine Plenkiewicz, Deputy National Coordinator, Cayman's Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group; and Ms Dunker speak after the event.

# Caymanian Times

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# New Approach for Youth Parliament

More than two dozen students from public and private high schools and colleges across the Cayman Islands have begun a half year training programme ahead of the 2020 Youth Parliament.

The young participants aged 13-17 years are receiving intensive coaching from the staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) ahead of the Youth Parliament Debate next Commonwealth Day. For the first time they also have the benefit of partnerships with the Cayman Islands Youth Assembly and the Cayman Islands Civil Service Toastmasters Association.

Chair of the organising committee of members of the legislative assembly since 2017 Barbara Conolly says: "Getting to know the students and introducing them to the procedures that govern the law-making branch of Government is always an exciting time for us. We also look forward to the new partnerships and how this will help to enhance our work here which aims to develop the political and civic future of the Cayman Islands"

The Cayman Islands Youth Assembly is a similar group of students coordinated by Government's Youth Services Unit that meets during the school year to raise awareness of young people's role in the community and the social issues that affect them. As part of this process they typically research and develop two

discussion papers a year to be shared with Government.

In 2019-2020 these papers will be produced in tandem with the Youth Parliament and provide a foundation for the young people's Commonwealth Day debate. Past motions by the Youth Parliament have looked at the establishment of a public transportation system, residential qualifications for MLAs, banning of single use plastic and implementing a juvenile detention and youth rehabilitation centre. Meanwhile past papers by the Youth Assembly have looked at topics ranging from youth advocacy and bullying to overdevelopment and the Cayman environment.

Work with the Toastmasters' Association meanwhile will focus on strengthening the students' public presentation and leadership skills ahead of the 2020 event. These are of course the same abilities that the club works to promote in its own membership.

While the topics of the Commonwealth Day meeting have yet to be decided this year's Youth Parliamentarians have a busy four months ahead of them. On the agenda so far have been discussions about the roles of persons of Parliamentary staff, as well as lessons on the rules that govern the House and the legislation for which it is responsible.

Youth Assembly representatives have also visited to discuss potential topics.



► Following a partnership between the Youth Assembly and the Youth Parliament, Youth Services Coordinator James Myles (centre) and Youth Service Unit Programme Officer James Geary (L) and Youth Assembly President Mohindra Brown to explain the process by which the Assembly develops its annual position papers to Youth Parliament participants. In 2019-2020 these papers will be produced in tandem with the Youth Parliament and will provide a foundation for the young people's Commonwealth Day debate. (Photos by GIS)

In addition to Ms Conolly, members of this year's Youth Parliament organising committee include George Town Central MLA Kenneth Bryan, West Bay North MLA Bernie Bush, George Town West MLA David Wight and Newlands MLA Alva Suckoo.

Ms Conolly notes that the students still have an increasingly intensive agenda ahead of them.

"The young people will hold their own elections to determine who gets to fill what role on the day and then decide what topics they will cover. They will also learn about motions, bills and debates and receive intense training on

public speaking. It is a rewarding experience for us but also for the young people, which is why so many of them return year after year," she explains.

Students are drawn from public and private high schools on Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac as well as the Cayman Islands Further Education Centre and University College of the Cayman Islands. Young people from Cayman Brac telecommute to the weekly training sessions.

The top performing students at the Cayman Islands event will be selected for participation in the regional and international youth parliaments next year. 🌐



► Some two dozen young people from public and private schools on Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac, are receiving intensive coaching from the staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) ahead of the Youth Parliament Debate next Commonwealth Day



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Bodden Town Civic Centre

**EAST END**  
**TUESDAY 3rd December**  
East End Civic Centre

**NORTH SIDE**  
**THURSDAY 5th December**  
North Side Civic Centre

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# Civil Aviation Authority hosts annual Safety Seminar

In its commitment to aviation safety, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands (CAACI) hosted its annual three day Safety Seminar on the 4th – 6th November. The Seminar focused on a variety of topics ranging from up-

dates on the Boeings' 737-8 Max aircraft, technical/safety topics of airworthiness, flight operations, operational risk, strategic and operational planning, Safety Management Systems (SMS) to updates on the recently implemented Data Protection Law and Cybersecurity. The seminar was held at the George Town Yacht Club Conference Room, and attended by the CAACI's technical and administrative staff, overseas contracted surveyors and inspectors. Members of the local aviation industry were invited to attend the Safety Management System (SMS) Case Study presented by Capt. Mark Dixon, CAACI Flight Operations Inspector and Senior Lecturer Emirates Aviation University MBA and MSc programme.

At the official opening ceremony, the Premier and Minister for International Trade, Investment, Aviation & Maritime Affairs, the Hon. Alden McLaughlin offered opening remarks which focused on the objectives of his new Ministry, the promotion of the Cayman Islands Aircraft Registry and the synergies with other asset management options offered by the jurisdiction which creates unique offerings for business clients worldwide.

His Excellency, the Governor Mr. Martyn Roper, offered the keynote address that reflected on his responsibility to the United Kingdom for aviation, to ensure



► Group photo all seminar attendees, CAACI Board members, management and staff, His Excellency, the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, the Premier, the Hon. Alden McLaughlin and Chief Officer Eric Bush

compliance with the UK's obligations to the Chicago Convention and the importance of the aviation industry and its implications for the two pillars of the Cayman economy – the finance and tourism industries. He went on to congratulate the CAACI for retaining full designation from the UK for regulatory oversight of the Cayman Islands aviation industry, including aircraft on the Cayman Islands Aircraft Registry that are domiciled and operate globally.

Director- General of the CAACI, Mr. Smith commented, "it is very important that we are able to come together, at least once a year to reconnect, gain insight from each other, share learnings and examine trending topics which affect our regulatory oversight role and also to strategize for the next 12 months

and beyond," he continued, "The 2019 Safety Seminar was extremely successful and will set the standard for future seminars and conferences."

The culmination of the 2019 Safety Seminar on Wednesday afternoon included a team building event lead by Greg Smith, CEO of the YMCA (who specializes in Organisational Leadership). The teambuilding event focused on presentation of theoretical organisational behavior principals and various types of activities aimed at understanding the dynamics of how teams function, communications skills and instilling an appreciation for what each person brings to the job place. The exercises were designed to impart the learnings in an enjoyable fashion where all were encouraged to contribute. 🌐

*The CAACI has full designation for safety oversight as a UK OT, and is one of only three OTs to enjoy such delegation. The CAACI is responsible for both technical and economic regulation of the Cayman Islands' aviation industry. In addition, the Cayman Islands is classified as Category 1 by the USA Federal Aviation Administration under their "International Aviation Safety Assessments" programme that evaluates a country's civil aviation authority's ability to effectively regulate its aviation industry. The requirement for such rating lies with the CAACI being assessed as having technically qualified and highly experienced staff to effectively oversee the aviation industry in accordance with established standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).*

# RCIPS Recruitment Fair focuses on Caymanians

By Christopher Tobutt

The RCIPS held a Recruitment Fair at their Training and Development Unit at Governor's Square, so that Caymanians and others who meet the selection requirements could see what life in the police ser-

vice was all about. If they are selected, they will be invited to one of the two intakes of new recruits planned for 2020, and from there undergo the 17-week basic training course to become police officers. After that, each of the recruits can think about how they would

like to branch out to pursue careers in the various different police departments that best suit their passion, aptitude and personality.

"The focus is on recruiting Caymanians, and on recruiting males and females in equal numbers," explained Police Commissioner Derek Byrne. "One of the interesting things about us is the range of services we provide. So any young persons (and even not-so-young, because there's room for mature persons as well) come in to the force, do their two years' probation, and after that there is a range of options for persons with particular skill sets."

There is so much diversification within the RCIPS, so it is a really interesting and challenging career, for those that have the aptitude. Those who look back on careers, they have enjoyed their time serving as police officers," Mr. Byrne continued, "they enjoy working in communities the diversity of



► Commissioner Derek Byrne (Centre) with Danny McIlhagga (left) and Kristoff Powell (right) of the Air Operations Unit



► Christina Tracy spoke to Detective Superintendent Pete Lansdown

the people that they meet, the challenges they encounter, and the experience they gain, and in many instances, the lifelong friends they make."

People were coming in and looking around, and were able to talk to officers representing the wide range of departments, including the MASH unit, Family Support unit, K9 department, Air Operations Unit, and Financial Crime, amongst others. Detective Superintendent Pete Lansdown was busy explaining the work of the Criminal Investigation Department to Christina Tracy who was very interested in joining: "Today was very informative, I learned of the different departments that are in the RCIPS. I am very interested with the Crime Scene investigation department and it was explained to us how to make our reports, and how the department runs, overall. It is totally something different from what my career is now, because I am an Executive Pastry Chef," she said.

The Air Operations Unit has been expanding its scope, and apart from the helicopters, now operates three drones, which

can help spot missing persons, or help with big events like Pirates' Week. PC Kristoff Powell has been with the Unit from February this year. Through training, he said, he was able to overcome his fear of heights. "I like the unit. It gives another perspective on policing where the norm is to be on the road; we provide some sort of humanitarian support as well as medical support and so far it's been very interesting."

Deserey Burton, an officer with the HR Department, said: "First of all we are catering to the local Caymanians we are pushing for that, because we feel that, at this point we would like to increase those numbers across those units, but not Caymanians only, but other suitable non-Caymanians as well; persons who would have met the four-year legal requirement for being on-island, including the regular standard requirements which is the high school diploma or 3 CXE subjects. The kind of person we are looking for is someone with a passion; wanting to make a difference and wanting to change lives." 🌐



► Deserey Burton



## THE ROTARY CLUB OF GRAND CAYMAN

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE

# 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



**Monday**  
**December 2nd 2019**  
**6:00pm**

**Government Administration Building, Elgin Avenue, GT**

# Statement from Polaris Applied Sciences

By Greg Challenger, M.S.,  
Marine Ecologist

As the marine biologist from Polaris Applied Sciences Inc who attached the corals at the TATOOSH anchor damage site in West Bay, Grand Cayman and the container vessel SAGA grounding at Eden Rock, Grand Cayman, I am responding to the statements made by Dr Carrie Manfrino at the official launch of the Cruise Port Referendum (CPR) campaign on Wednesday, 20 November 2019, as reported in Cayman News Service on 21 November 2019.

Dr Manfrino is incorrect in her inferences and lacks a basic understanding of what occurred and what was completed at the vessel damaged sites. It is unfortunate that misinformation is being communicated to the public.

On 14 January 2016, the anchor chain of the 303 foot mega yacht, MV TATOOSH owned by Paul Allen destroyed approximately 14,000 square feet of protected coral reef in the area of West Bay, Cayman Islands.

The team at Polaris Applied Sciences successfully attached all the corals that remained after the anchor and chain damage on the MV TATOOSH case. If we had more available corals that had not been crushed by the anchor and chain,

we would have been able to have attached them successfully as well. Dr Manfrino claims 80% of the site is dead. In their own study, CCMI identifies coral cover in Grand Cayman as 17% average. That sounds correct. After a ship grounding on a 17% coral cover site, we would have been fortunate to attain a small percentage of live coral cover. However, there was approximately 20% live cover of benthic organisms, which is a very good result. Smashed or damaged corals from a vessel hull or anchor are in greater danger of mortality than those removed carefully, yet survival was high for reattached corals in this instance, as it has been in all of our cases.

Dr Manfrino also incorrectly claimed in another article published in the Cayman Compass on 21 November 2019 that the coral restoration work undertaken by Polaris at Eden Rock, to repair damage caused by the SAGA container ship, was unsuccessful because coral cover was lower than surrounding areas. Of course it is lower. The cargo ship crushed most of the corals in the damaged footprint. Again, all the available undamaged and partly damaged corals were attached successfully. I assume a scientist would be aware that a large vessel crashing into a coral reef would likely kill most corals and reduce the

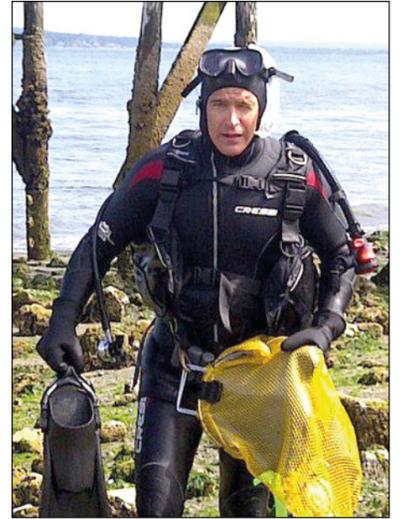
numbers available to reattach. It is disingenuous to say the vessel damage projects were unsuccessful because coral cover is lower than surrounding areas. Coral cover is lower because the large vessels crushed them, not because Polaris did not attach all remaining corals in the vessel-damaged rubble successfully.

The coral relocation project for the proposed port redevelopment is a very different project to these as this is carefully planned relocation rather than repairing significant damage. We plan to attach all corals successfully, as we always have, and expect strong survival of those corals.

This project is an environmental project in our view. Reducing anchoring on many acres of corals in Grand Cayman as a result of the building of two piers, will start a recovery process for a much larger area than that proposed to be affected in George Town harbour. The anchor damaged areas can be restored as has been done in the past. There is a net benefit of ecological gains in the longer term even if relocation is only partly successful. We fully anticipate success as we have in every other similar project. The net environmental benefit of many acres of reef no longer damaged by anchors, coral relocation and the coral nursery could be substantially greater than no-action.

I have never worked for a cruise company. I have no affiliation with the industry. This is an environmental project. I'm not saying this because Polaris want to do the job - hire someone else and I still say this is an environmental project. Greatly reducing the anchor damage that has pulverized a much larger area of reef will have benefits in perpetuity.

Polaris has just returned from Bikini Atoll where the U.S. dropped a thermonuclear weapon in WWII. Coral growth is amazing. Grand Cayman isn't the Marshall Islands, but corals grow and recover. With some as-



► Greg Challenger, President of Polaris Applied Sciences Inc. Mr. Challenger is a marine biologist with 30 years of experience in environmental resource management and marine and freshwater habitat restoration, and environmental regulation.

stance, recovery can be enhanced at the anchor damaged areas to proceed faster. I am happy for Dr Manfrino to communicate with me directly to avoid misinformation in the future.

I invite readers to come to meet us at the public meeting on Saturday, November 23 at 7pm so you may view video of the work at Eden Rock, gain a correct understanding of what we do and ask questions so you can make up your own mind. 🌐



► 303 foot mega yacht, MV TATOOSH



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## Notice

### Tree Trimming in North Side

**Old Man Bay • Rum Point • Cayman Kai**

**When and Where:** During November and early December, CUC will be conducting aggressive tree trimming on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. in North Side from Old Man Bay to The Kaibo.

**Why:** Due to excessive growth, the trees and vegetation along North Side Road, Rum Point Drive and Water Cay Road have become an imminent safety hazard to power lines and must be trimmed back immediately.

CUC is obligated to and has a legal right in accordance with the *Electricity Law 2008, Rev. Section 22 (1)* to trim or remove trees for the purpose of maintaining sufficient clearance from the overhead power lines at all times. CUC is responsible for providing safe and reliable electrical service to Grand Cayman. To satisfy this responsibility, it is necessary to ensure that trees and other vegetation do not obstruct or interfere with power lines or constitute an unacceptable source of danger.

**Who:** CUC utilises two subcontractors, Utility Maintenance & Construction (UMC) and Power Services Cayman Ltd. (PSCL), to perform the necessary tree trimming. These contractors use qualified linemen who are certified arborists utilising professional tree pruning techniques to ensure safe and effective tree trimming and to promote the healthy regrowth of trees.

CUC asks for your cooperation during the upcoming weeks. Please exercise caution and due diligence when driving in these districts and be on the look out for the bright orange "Utility Work Ahead" signage as there will be temporary lane blockages and traffic management in place.

For further information, please contact our Customer Service Team at 949-5200 or via e-mail at [service@cuc.ky](mailto:service@cuc.ky).





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# Top Schools advance to Semi Finals

As expected, the quarter final round of the 2019 CUC Primary Football League (PFL) playoffs, which were played this past Saturday, November 23rd at the Annex Field, was extremely entertaining with the islands' best young players in action.

With the CUC Girls' Primary Football League (GPFL) enjoying a weekend off, the Under 9 and Under 11 boys' teams took to the field hoping to extend their 2019 play knowing that if they lost on this day, it would be the end of their season.

## CUC PFL Under 9 Consolation Cup:

Red Bay Primary were relentless in their win over Cayman International School 9White 2-0 and Bodden Town Primary came from behind to defeat Sir John A. Cumber Primary 3-2. In this weekend's semi finals, Red Bay Primary will face Prospect Primary and Bodden Town Primary play NorthEast Schools for a place in the final.

Prospect Primary and NorthEast School received byes to the semi final round due to their regular season positions in the final Group B standings.

## CUC PFL Under 9 Champions Cup:

St. Ignatius Catholic had to rely on penalties to defeat Triple C 2-1 as both

schools could not find a winner during regulation or extra time. In other quarter final games, South Sound Schools continued their fine form as they outlasted Cayman Prep 9B 2-1, defending Under 9 champions Cayman Prep 9A defeated Savannah Primary 5-1 (respect rule enforced) and Cayman International 9Blue got past George Town Primary 2-1.

In the semi finals, St. Ignatius Catholic will play Cayman Prep 9A and South Sound Schools take on Cayman International 9Blue.

## CUC PFL Under 11 Consolation Cup:

The Under 11 boys from NorthEast Schools will join their younger classmates in the semi final round as they defeated Cayman Prep 11B 4-0. In other scores, Cayman Brac topped Truth For Youth 4-0 (respect rule enforced), Red Bay Primary ousted Cayman International 11White 3-0 and Bodden Town Primary were 4-0 victors over Wesleyan Christian (respect rule enforced).

## CUC PFL Under 11 Champions Cup:

Defending Under 11 champions Cayman Prep 11A continued their unbeaten run with a hard-fought 2-0 win over Savannah Primary to secure a spot in the semi finals. In other scores, Cay-



► Action in the CUC PFL Under 9 Champions Cup quarter final between Savannah Primary (blue and yellow) and Cayman Prep 9A

man International 11Blue advanced with a 3-0 victory over Sir John A. Cumber Primary, Prospect Primary defeated George Town Primary 4-0 (respect rule enforced) and St. Ignatius Catholic topped Triple C 3-1.

In the semi finals, St. Ignatius Catholic will play Prospect Primary and Cayman Prep 11A take on Cayman International 11Blue for a place in the final.

The semi final round of the 2019 CUC PFL Champions and Consolation Cup playoffs takes place this Saturday, November 30th. The finals and third-place games will take place on Saturday, December 7th. All playoff games are at the Annex Field.

The final two rounds of the 2019 CUC GPFL will also take place on Saturday, November 30th and Saturday, December 7th. 🌐

# Huge Success at 13th annual Breeze Fusion Walk/Run

Coming off a record setting 2018, the Breeze Fusion 5K Walk/Run was back in action on Saturday, November 3rd in Grand Cayman helping to raise funds for the NCVO, the Leo Club of Cayman Brac, Childhood Cancer Awareness & Education Campaign, and Central Scranton Community Committee (Park & Playground).

A very pleasant and cool morning breeze greeted some 219 risers for the Breeze Fusion 5k, organized by the Radio Cayman team. The race saw 113 Walkers and 106 Runners registered for the 13th annual event. And for the first time this year, a 10k run was implemented which saw 41 people signing up to run the course with 26 athletes completing the event.

Norma McField, Director of Radio Cayman exclaimed afterwards that it was yet another awesome event and she thanked the participants for supporting the causes that will benefit from the funds. She said that next year "we hope that it will grow even more, with increase participants and sponsorships".



Radio Cayman's Deputy Director Paulette Connolly-Bailey said "It was a beautiful day with the rain holding up until the end. She said, it was so delightful to see parents walking with their children, especially sons and dads participating as a bonding day for them. Thanks to the sponsors we had great food and fruits and drinks." For us to survive thirteen years of going and going and giving, it really makes you feel grateful when you see the sponsors receiving their cheque for what you worked so hard to achieve, it was just fabulous." Mrs. Connolly-Bailey said.

Most of the participants registered to wear the timing chip for a 6.15am start for the 5k & 10k run whilst the walkers began their journey at 6:30pm.

At the front was a good tussle between Cayman's finest middle distance runners Michael Smikle, Levi

Superville, Tiffany Cole and Leo Schilling who competed at the 2019 Cayman Islands Carifta Games in April and/or hope to do so again when the competition takes place in Bermuda next year.

For the 5K distance, 400 and 800m middle distance runner, 19 year old Michael Smikle clocked in first winning the 5k in a time of 17:45.25; Leo Schilling came in second with a time of 19:17.79 and the first female was Tiffany Cole who had a hard time but pulled through clocking in 3rd place for the 5k in a time of 19:29.09.

Paul Henry led the pack in the 10K run in a time of 38 mins 25.61 seconds; Wes Heistand followed in second place with a time of 38 minutes 45.19 seconds; In 3rd place was Randy Andrew and the 1st woman to cross the 10k finish line was Carol McKensie. McKenzie place 6th overall in a time of 48:34.59.

The event organized by Radio Cayman and Breeze FM since inception in 2007, has supported the National Council for

Voluntary Organizations (NCVO), an independent, non-profit, charitable organization which engages in projects to meet the ever-growing needs of the community. Funds from this year's Grand Cayman race also benefitted the Central Scranton Community Committee (Park and Playground).

The 13th Annual event was made possible thanks to the numerous contributors including Staff, Race Caribbean, CaymanActive.com and volunteers, including PWD, Lions Club of Tropical Gardens, RCIPS, Red Cross, John Gray H.S. Band, Fosters and Race Caribbean, along with the generous support of the corporate community, with Gold sponsor: Yello; Silver sponsors Subway and Cayman National Bank; and Bronze sponsors Dasani, Green Machine, RVC, Cayman Water Company and Roma United.

The Radio Cayman team will now prepare for the 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, November 30th on Cayman Brac. 🌐



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# Wilder gave Ortiz rematch to pay medics

Deontay Wilder remains WBC world heavyweight title after his tenth defence through a stunning knockout after being out-boxed by Luis Ortiz for six rounds. But in the seventh, Wilder's thunderous right-hand left Ortiz stunned and beaten on the canvas.

The "Brown Bomber" was in danger of losing his title after nearly five years as champ until his concussive power settled the argument. It was always a dangerous rematch considering in their first bout last year, the fight followed the same pattern with the Cuban southpaw out-boxing and hurting Wilder until he found a devastating combination in the tenth round.

There is an interesting sub-plot as to why Wilder, 34, took such a hazardous fight in preparation for the Tyson Fury rematch in February: Ortiz, like Wilder, has a seriously ill daughter too and the champ wanted the 40-year-old challenger to earn another magnificent payday to help pay America's prohibitive medical bills.

Ortiz's 11-year-old daughter has an incurable, agonizing, blistering skin disease. Ortiz defected to the US in 2009 from Cuba, hoping a professional boxing career could provide better care for his daughter, Lismercedes, who has epidermolysis bullosa — a rare and occasionally fatal condition that results in fragile skin and painful blisters comparable to third-degree burns.

Since his arrival, "King Kong", worked his way up the heavyweight division to become a contender. All the while, his daughter has been receiving treatments at Stanford University, where doctors are among the world's leading researchers in epidermolysis bullosa.

"The (doctors are) extremely optimistic (about advancements), which only makes him very happy," said Ortiz's trainer, Herman Caciado. "We all follow suit."

Professional boxing was barred by the Cuban government for five decades, so Ortiz — despite two decades of experience and a 343-19 amateur record — could not cash in on his talents without departing for America. His daughter was diagnosed about three months after birth and Ortiz then decided to defect, mainly to earn enough to help her.

He travelled through Mexico and eventually settled in South Florida, debuting in February 2010. His wife, Lisdey, and children defected in 2012 and reunited with Ortiz at the American border.

"Just being here in the United States, where the progression of (my daughter's) disease — there's potential to have a cure," Ortiz said. "In Cuba, there was no hope for that. That was a home run to start with, and as soon as I got here and my family got here, I was able to focus on both dreams that I had, which is finding a cure and becoming the heavyweight champion of the world."



► Deontay Wilder gave Ortiz another shot for humanitarian reasons

Ortiz (31-2, 26 knockouts) hoped to become the first Cuban heavyweight champion. It is unlikely he'll get another shot at Wilder but could still be a contender earning great money for another couple of years. He blamed fatigue for his first Wilder defeat but had no strong reason this time.

Wilder's empathy comes from having a daughter who was born with spina bifida, a condition that affects the development of the spinal cord. He was a single parent

at a young age and only took up boxing because he saw it as the quickest and easiest way of making serious money to care for Naieya. The move was a shrewd one.

"If no one understood, I understood the most," said Wilder, one of boxing's top draws who is 42-0-1 with 40 KOs. "I wanted to give him the opportunity to be on pay-per-view and gain money for his family. I want him to get the best of the best doctors for his daughter. And this is why we're here." 🌐



► Zach LaVine is in brilliant form for the Bulls

## LaVine thrills Bulls like Jordan did

Zach LaVine is the talk of the NBA at the moment after scoring a career-high 49 points and hitting the game winner to beat the Charlotte Hornets 116-115 on Saturday, just one night after the Chicago Bulls guard was temporarily benched.

His last second heroics evoked memories of the Bulls Michael Jordan who often thrilled fans with similar feats.

Coach Jim Boylen removed LaVine midway through the first quarter of Friday night's loss to the Miami Heat after the Bulls fell behind 13-0 and kept him out of the game for more than five minutes. LaVine admitted after the loss that he sensed a lack of trust from his coach,

which was his motivation to respond in North Carolina.

LaVine shot 17-of-28 from the field -- including 13-of-17 on 3s, tying Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson for the most in a game in NBA history. Seven of those 3-pointers came in the fourth quarter, which equalled the most in a single quarter in Bulls history. The biggest one came with less than a second remaining.

"I pretty much just said f--- it, I'm going for the game," LaVine said. "Really, though! Once I shot it, I knew it was cash."

LaVine is the first Bulls player in the regular season since Jordan did the same with a buzzer-beater against the Hornets in 1997. 🌐

## Jones set for next UFC defence

UFC light heavyweight champion Jon "Bones" Jones will defend his belt against Dominick Reyes at UFC 247 in Houston's Toyota Center on Feb. 8.

Jones, who is the UFC's pound-for-pound top fighter, with a 22-1 record with one no-contest. His only loss was via disqualification for illegal downward elbows against Matt Hamill in 2009.

The two-time champ has defended the belt twice since winning it back last December against Alexander Gustafsson. Jones earned a unanimous-decision victory over Anthony Smith before beating Thiago Santos via split decision.

Jones initially won the belt in 2011 against Mauricio Rua and defended it eight times, but the UFC stripped him of the title in 2015 for violating the organisation's code of conduct policy through failed drugs testing.

Reyes, 12-0, is coming off a first-round knockout win over ex-middleweight champion Chris Weidman. He earned Performance of the Night for that result.

Nine of Reyes' 12 victories have ended before going to judges; he has four technical knockouts, three knockouts and two submissions.

Nevertheless, Reyes will be a heavy underdog entering this fight. 🌐



► Jon Jones is the UFC's top drawer

## Siakam's change of heart from priesthood is a blessing

Pascal Siakam is playing so well for the Toronto Raptors that the Canadian side believe they can retain the NBA title despite the defection of last season's talisman Kawhi Leonard.

After winning their first NBA title in franchise history, the Raptors were on top of the world. Then Leonard rained on championship parade by heading home to join the Los Angeles Clippers. In his absence, however, a new star has stepped up for the Raptors in Siakam.

Amazingly, growing up in Cameroon, Siakam never dreamed of NBA success, although he was 6ft 7ins and naturally athletic. He preferred football. He planned on becoming a Catholic priest but had a change of heart as a teenager. He had always played basketball for fun and attended Luc Mbah a Moute's basketball camp; that scored him an invite to a Basketball Without Borders session, where he caught the attention of scouts.

Siakam moved to the United States, where he enrolled at New Mexico State University. He spent two years with there, capturing the WAC Player of the Year, before declaring for the NBA



► Pascal Siakam considered the priesthood as a kid

draft. The Raptors snagged him with the 26th overall pick. He worked his way up through the ranks and proved to be a solid bench player during the 2017-18 season and truly came into his own during the 2018-19 run to the NBA title. In addition to the Larry O'Brien Trophy, Siakam, 25, also won the Most Improved Player Award. 🌐

## Absent Gabriel is a Test for Windies

West Indies cricket analysts are aware of a little-known fact about their 10 Test-match victories in the past four years; they've all come when fast bowler Shannon Gabriel was playing.

The powerfully-built pacer not only takes wickets but the intimidating effect of his pace and aggression are assets long lost since the West Indies heydays.

Captain Jason Holder and coach Phil Simmons were aware of that fact in the lone Test against Afghanistan in India which started on Tuesday.

The 31-year-old Trinidadian won't be there — rested because of a serious ankle problem which has bothered him for a while and was particularly noticeable during way-below-par performances against India in mid-year.

Indeed, on the first day of the Sabina Park Test, it was the worst Gabriel has bowled. Alzarri Joseph has stepped in for Gabriel.

Afghanistan are playing only their fourth Test match since upgraded status two years ago. The Afghans beat fellow newcomers to Test cricket Ireland in 2018 and followed that up with heavy defeat to mighty India.

But two months ago they shocked Bangladesh, winning comprehensively in spin-friendly conditions in Bangla-



► Shannon Gabriel has a tremendous impact

desh. Bangladesh are no longer push-overs, they swept West Indies in a two-Test series in that country less than a year ago.

Obviously, a huge challenge for West Indies batsmen will be the Afghan spinners. Led by their captain Rashid Khan, they are among the best spinners in the sport. 🌐

**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

- 1 Robin snacks
- 6 Red-ink entry
- 11 Blockhead
- 12 Make blank
- 13 Musical speed
- 14 Dinner setting
- 15 Equestrian game
- 17 Japanese currency
- 18 Split into shares
- 22 Persia, today
- 23 Mason's tool
- 27 Dance in a line
- 29 Black card
- 30 Guarantee
- 32 Prudish person
- 33 Concert performers
- 35 Distant
- 38 Harrow rival
- 39 Precise
- 41 Wading bird
- 45 "Cats" poet
- 46 Writer Pirandello
- 47 River part
- 48 Tea stirrer

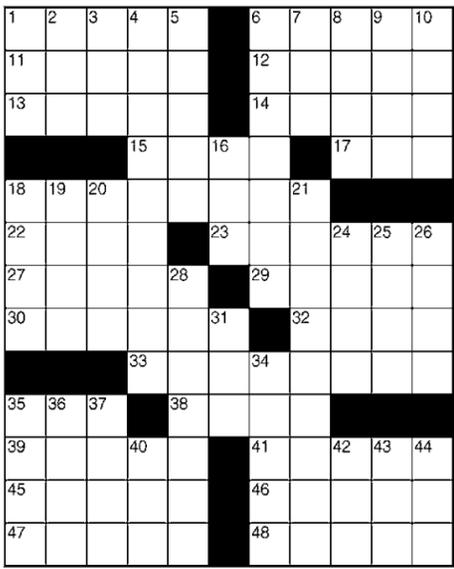
**DOWN**

- 1 Humor
- 2 Poem of praise
- 3 Brink
- 4 Taking care of loose ends
- 5 Arose
- 6 Round-about routes
- 7 Memorable time
- 8 Newborn
- 9 Cruise stop
- 10 Freshman, usually
- 16 Rent out
- 18 Casino cubes
- 19 Steel ingredient
- 20 Moving trucks
- 21 Appearing unexpectedly
- 24 Conflicts
- 25 Fix copy
- 26 Tripod trio
- 28 Short solo
- 31 Have lunch
- 34 Seasonal songs
- 35 Trough fill
- 36 Car bar
- 37 Track part
- 40 Guest's bed
- 42 2016 Olympics city
- 43 Swelled head
- 44 Bronze ingredient



Saturday's answer

- 19 Steel ingredient
- 20 Moving trucks
- 21 Appearing unexpectedly
- 24 Conflicts
- 25 Fix copy
- 26 Tripod trio
- 28 Short solo
- 31 Have lunch
- 34 Seasonal songs
- 35 Trough fill
- 36 Car bar
- 37 Track part
- 40 Guest's bed
- 42 2016 Olympics city
- 43 Swelled head
- 44 Bronze ingredient



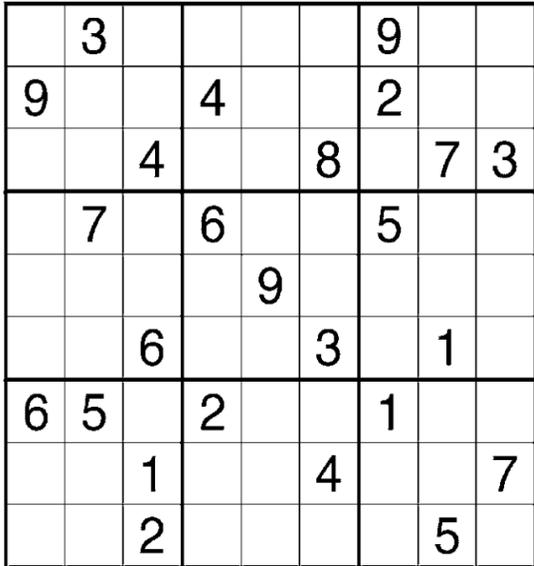
11-19

**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**

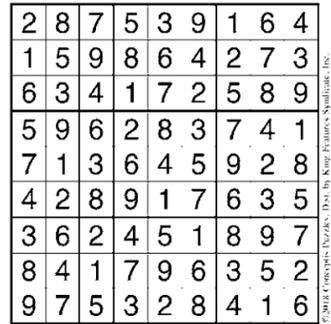
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/05

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★★

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Word Search



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

- Attack
- Bishop
- Black
- Board
- Capture
- Castle
- Check
- Clock
- Diagonal
- Draw
- Endgame
- Exchange
- Gambit
- King
- Knight
- Mate
- Move
- Opening
- Pawn
- Pin
- Queen
- Rank
- Rook
- Square
- Threat
- White
- Win
- Zugzwang



**CURTIS**

By Ray Billingsley



**THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN**

By Stan Lee



**JUDGE PARKER**

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





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Canadian surgeries leave objects in patients



Murdered activist's daughter takes over



Philippines economy is rising



Cuba relies on Chinese for tourism



**FRONT PAGE**

### Annual Turtle Release a Success

Continuing a tradition that started decades ago, the Cayman Turtle Centre, held its annual turtle release on Sunday, November 10th. It was a fun, family-friendly event with meaning. Everyone there seemed to have great time and there were moments of inspirati...

13 Nov, 2019

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Local News



### "Be Informed" theme for series of port meetings

With the port referendum drawing closer, the government has organised a series of eight big public meetings for disseminating information and answering voters' questions about the proposed new cruise berthing facility, the first of which took place at Mary Miller Hall

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Government



### Government to Hold Public Meetings on Cruise Berthing

The Government will be holding a series of public meetings in its ongoing effort to inform the public about the proposed cruise berthing facility and enhanced cargo port project (CBF).

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Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories Lay

Government commits to beneficial ownership register

In a statement issued this week, ... has announced that it will