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Sporting year in review

The Cost of a Nor'wester



By Ralph Lewis

On Tuesday, December 24th, five cruise ships were scheduled to stop at our downtown cruise port and deliver 12,699 cruise passengers to our shores.

If 75% of those passengers came ashore and spent the reported industry passenger spend (CI\$82), the island could possibly have seen a substantial days' earnings exceeding \$1 million.

Unfortunately, a mild nor'wester arrived on Monday and only 2 cruise ships were able to tender at the Spotts facility on Tuesday. Based on this, it is reasonable to say that approximately \$500,000 was lost on Tuesday due to the inclement weather.

The weather forecast for that day predicted partly cloudy skies with a 20% - 30% chance of showers during the day.

The winds were predicted to be northerly at 10 to 15 knots, with higher gusts.

The sea state was predicted to be rough with wave height 4 to 6 feet and small craft should have exercised caution in open water.

As mother nature sent a cold front our way, it is clear that the cruise ship schedules were not considered, and we saw fewer ships stopping in for that day.

This will be a blow for the industry as many local merchants were expecting to receive financial benefits from that potential lucrative day.

As the debate for the port continues, one wonders if the new port will mitigate the risks caused by mother nature during those days of the Winter Season when a cold front reaches our shores.

Others may argue that we need to maximize the good days by building the port to accommodate bigger ships and so offset the losses that may be incurred from a Nor'wester.

As we enjoy the Christmas holidays, these weather systems will also bring cool breezes that reminds us of the traditional Cayman Christmas.

No doubt early next year the battle for the cruise port will intensify but for

... Continued story on page A5

RCIPS Holiday Safety Campaign Continues

The RCIPS Holiday Safety Campaign is ongoing this week, as the intensified road enforcement operations which began at the beginning of the month continue throughout the holiday season. These enforcement operations include an increase in traffic stops and high visibility patrols, led by the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit. The aim is to reduce traffic collisions and increase road safety, in part by cracking down on drunk driving and speeding, while also targeting offenses such as illegal tint and driving while disqualified.

Since the beginning of December, 28 arrests for DUI have been made, including several persons arrested with a blood alcohol content of over twice the legal limit. Officers from the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit have also arrested 5 persons on suspicion of driving while disqualified or driving without being qualified, issued 213 tickets for speeding, 164 tickets for using a mobile phone while driving, and 563 tickets for illegal tint.

As a reminder, illegal tint and mobile phone usage while driving each carry a fine of \$150.



The RCIPS has also partnered once again with the National Drug Council in support of the 19th annual Designated Driver and New Year's Eve Purple Ribbon Bus Campaigns. The RCIPS would like to remind that public that the Designated Driver Campaign is running throughout the holiday season, and is an initiative among local restaurants to offer designated drivers complimentary soft drinks throughout the evening. The Purple Ribbon Bus service provides free bus service on New Year's Eve from 9:00PM to 4:00AM. The service runs between West Bay and Bodden Town every 15 minutes, with occasional service to East End and North Side. Additionally

... Continued story on page A7

NIGHT OF LIGHTS



► JUDGES FOR NIGHT OF LIGHTS ROBIN ROSS, BARBARA REDMANWHITE AND HELEN MAE LERNER, WHO COMMENTED AT THE END THAT IT WOULD BE REMEMBERED BY HER AS ONE OF THE GREAT HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS VISIT TO THE BRAC

As part of the 3rd Annual Spot Bay Christmas Homecoming, on Saturday 14th December the Spot Bay Committee proudly invited homeowners in Spot Bay to enter free of charge the 2nd Annual Night of Lights Contest. Making it a seasonal tradition to line rooftops to yards with beautiful Holiday lights and decorations, letting the spirit of the Christmas Season shine. Seven participants entered the free of charge con-

... Continued story on page A4

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COMMUNITY VOICE

Letter from our reader: 'Colours Cayman'

Dear Editor:

The Cayman Compass recently ran an article titled "Colours Cayman: Deportation comments in LA 'blatant and gross abuse of power'", which has provoked this response from me and on behalf of many, many others who shared their own views on this article and demand with me.

Colours Cayman's demands for an apology from elected representatives, the Honourable Anthony Eden and Honourable Ezzard Miller on the issues of the "same-sex marriage delusion" (SSM) and the violation of Cayman laws by Mr Leonardo Raznovich is absolutely ludicrous.

How does one demand elected lawmakers who know the law and are defending/enforcing it to apologize to a foreigner who knows the law and broke it?

Contrary to Colour Cayman's spokesman Mr Billie Bryan's view, Hon. Anthony Eden is very much aware of the sunshine around him; the only person refusing to face the reality of the non-existence of "SSM" as a human "right" is Mr Billie Bryan himself.

A "right" to "SSM" does not exist in the Cayman Islands according to the latest ruling of the Cayman Islands Courts of Appeal on this matter, not in international law nor in the ECHR who declared that marriage was determined by national Constitutions. Ours does not recognize it.

Regarding their advisory to Cabinet to investigate Mr Raznovich's actions and deport him under the law if applicable, we must be mindful that the stability of this (and any) country can be undermined by anyone from inside the country. According to the law, Mr Raznovich is to refrain from political and subversive activity; there aren't



any exceptions cited, such as "except in cases of advocacy for perceived human rights".

It is not customary (nor commonly accepted by the host country) for a migrant to advocate against its government and laws, its social and cultural rights, lobby against its judiciary and bring the country to global disrepute while simultaneously creating a divide amongst its citizens (unless your desire is ultimately to destroy the country or divide and conquer it).

It is not sound doctrine for a citizen of the country to undermine our political stability by demanding our politicians when acting in the defence of the country to apologize for what they perceived to be criminal behaviour of a guest in the country.

The only apology due is from Mr Bryan to Hons. Eden and Miller, to the entire LA, to the whole country for attempting to mislead us at the risk of creating a (greater) dissension among our Caymanian population.

Hons. Eden and Miller should be applauded for taking action to protect the country from risk of destabilization, dissension and protecting the social and cultural rights of many quiet Caymanians.

We have our Constitution and laws; we ALL have to abide by them. NO ONE is above the law.

God bless the Cayman Islands and may His word reign supreme in this country.

Kattina Anglin,
Cayman CAUSE. 🌐

COMMUNITY NOTICES

DVDL – Office Hours to 2020

The Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing (DVDL) wishes to remind the public of its upcoming opening hours:

Crewe Road Location

- Tuesday, 24 December – 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Offices closed at 12:30 p.m. for Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, 31 December – 8:30 to 12:30 p.m. Offices closed at 12:30 p.m. for New Year's Eve

Breakers and West Bay Locations

- Tuesday, 24 December – 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Offices closed at 12:30 p.m. for Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, 31 December – 8:30 to 12:30 p.m. Offices closed at 12:30 p.m. for New Year's Eve



All DVDL offices will be closed for Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day. Customers are reminded that they can renew their vehicle licence online via DVDL's website at www.dvdl.gov.ky or through the e-services portal www.eservices.gov.ky. 🌐

Christmas Message from HE the Governor

Christmas is such a special time in our Islands. We put the hurricane season behind us, Christmas lights go up all over the Islands and we welcome the cooler Christmas breezes. It is a time for family and friends. Time to step back, reflect on the positives in our lives and think about future challenges. I pay tribute to all those, including our emergency services, who will work over the Christmas period to keep us safe.



As an individual, Christian, Leader and Governor, I attach great importance to treating everyone, wherever they are or whatever they do, with the utmost courtesy, dignity and respect at all times. Respect means listening to the views of others and being tolerant of the views of others. All across the world, including in the divisive Brexit debate in the UK, we have lost some of that tolerance. My hope is that in 2020 all of us can make our own contribution to putting that right.

to people. On a lighter note, over the last 12 months, I must get a prize for eating more heavy cake than anyone else on the Islands! I've also learnt to play steel pan with the brilliant Earl La Pierre. I'm asked to play everywhere I go and we've had requests from as far away as Canada! I've stumbled on my post-Foreign office career.

Lissie and I have now been here for over 12 months. We are loving spending time with you all and getting out and about to support our wonderful community. I am an active user of social media – Instagram, Facebook and Twitter; a great way of connecting

We end 2019 in very good shape in the Cayman Islands. We have so much to be positive about and when we look at other parts of the world, we should be thankful about our relative peace and tranquillity. I will continue to do all I can to support the security and prosperity of everyone.

A very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to you all. God bless the Cayman Islands. 🌐

Christmas 2019 message from Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin

I bring you warm Caymanian greetings on this special Christmas Day.

Whenever I think of Christmas these words from our National Song 'Beloved Isle Cayman' often come to me:

*"When tired of all excitement,
And glam'rous worldly care,
How sweet thy shores to reach,
And find a welcome there,
And when comes on the season,
Of peace, goodwill to man,
'Tis then I love thee best of all,
Beloved Isle, Cayman!"*



We are fortunate, all of us, to live, work and to raise our families in these three verdant isles. In a very troubled world, our beloved Cayman Islands remain a paradise, despite the challenges we face.

Islands and provide greater opportunities for their children and for the generations to come.

Challenges are nothing new to Caymanians. The iron men and women who made these islands by their toil and devotion faced much greater challenges. Yet they persevered and with faith in God and each other built and shaped these islands into homes and communities. Communities that shared what they had, looking after each other and working to make these Islands a better place. Each generation has played their part to progress our

The past year has reminded us of this as we reflected on and honoured the important events and people who, some sixty years ago, set us on a political and economic path that has brought us continued stability, financial independence, and a standard of living that is the envy of much of the world. I pray that we never forget those nation builders or take for granted the foundation they built.

Like them, we should never forget from whence we have come, but seek

... Continued story on page A6

CUC's New Year's Closures

On **Tuesday, December 31**, our Customer Service Centres at Caribbean Plaza and Administrative Offices on North Sound Road will close at **noon** for New Year's. These offices will reopen for business on **Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.**

Gift Certificates from CUC that can be used towards paying electricity bills are available in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 from our Customer Service Centres throughout the year.

Bill payments can be made at our payment locations across Grand Cayman during their respective holiday hours.

Visit www.cuc-cayman.com for a list of payment locations.

Warmest wishes for a safe and happy New Year!

Contact 911 in the event of an electrical emergency

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NIGHT OF LIGHTS

... Continued story from page A1

test, and decorated the exterior of their homes beautifully with lights, wreaths and other decorative items.

Some notable decor of the 1st place winner Lurley Scott were gingerbread

cutouts, cupcakes, Christmas trees made from recycled pallets, a snowman (made from recycled tires), all handmade by her grandchildren. Sitting on her porch were TeddyBears dated 1993 from her personal collection. It might also be noted that when the grandchildren

ran out of decorations a good neighbor Sharon Connolly chipped in with true community spirit and loaned them some lights from her own decor. Second place went to Dell Dixon, whose sons got their workers to make snowmen and bulb decor made from recycled plastic bottles. Third place winner Fern Scott had a split theme with the traditional baby Jesus in the manger and more modern blow up decor and sea grape Christmas trees gathered from the seashore.

The other four contestants all had notable items. There was music to accompany the decorations, and yet another that had a Christmas story projected on the wall of her house, some personally brought in decor themselves all the way from Miami which included solar powered Christmas lights, and another had a Christmas doll made from recycled water bottles. The Spot Bay committee is hopeful that this competition which is more to spread joy and community spirit will continue to



▶ A JUDGE INSPECTING RECYCLE DECOR THAT SURPRISED EVERYONE OF CUT PLASTIC BOTTLES WITH BALLOONS INSIDE



▶ SHARON CONOLLY WITH DEVONIA CONNOLLY AND DARON CONNOLLY THE GRANDCHILDREN OF THE WINNER LURLEY SCOTT STANDING BY SOME THE DECOR THEY HANDMADE



▶ HUSBAND GARY WITH WIFE FERN SCOTT, THIRD PLACE WINNERS WITH MANGER SCENE



▶ DELL DIXON, SECOND PLACE WINNER WITH GRANDSON JESSE DIXON IN FRONT OF HER DECORATED HOME WITH HANDMADE SNOWMEN OUT OF RECYCLED WATER BOTTLES

grow each year until all the homes in the district are lit every Christmas.

The spirit of 2019 Christmas Homecoming continues with 5 days of activities.

1. Starting Monday 23rd December 5pm with the 2nd Annual Christmas Caroling with Seniors Gift Distribution on foot from Taylor Turn to Conway Turn in Spot Bay. Last year this was a great surprise and much appreciated event for the Seniors in the district.

2. Tuesday 24th December 2019 6pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Service will be held at Bethel Baptist Church with home grown pastors leading the service Rev Audley Scott and Rev Dr Charles 'Rex' Hurlston, who returns home especially for this event. The Turner children will also be in attendance. A great time for fellowship and to celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

3. Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day at 7pm the Annual Spot Bay Christmas Singspiration and Fireworks Display takes place at the Spot Bay Community Park (Night of Lights participants are encouraged to come out to collect their 2019 Certificates of Participation & prizes).

4. Thursday 26 December the public is invited to the Spot Bay Park again from 1pm to 4pm for Boxing Day Picnic and a Children's Party with Movie from 4pm to 7pm.

5. Last but surely not least Friday December 27th 9pm the grand finale takes place in the part of Spot Bay called Tiger Bay there will be a party on Mrs Vivia's Cistern Top. Come end our Christmas celebrations, dancing and listening to a live musical crew, DJ Alex music AND OTHER SURPRISE LOCAL TALENT into the wee hours of the morning.

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Supporting Our Community

Water Authority-Cayman is committed to giving back to our community and is proud to have supported many wonderful charities and causes in 2019.

Cayman AIDS Foundation, Cayman ARK, Cayman Arts Festival, Cayman Islands Cancer Society, Cayman Islands Crisis Centre, Cayman Islands Meals on Wheels, Cayman Islands National Trust, Cayman Islands Red Cross, Cayman National Cultural Foundation, Clifton Hunter High School, Dreamchasers, East End Primary School, John Gray High School, LIFE, NCVO, Pirates Week Festival, Positive Intervention Programme, Rotary Club of Cayman Brac, Special Needs Foundation, Veterans Association, Autism Awareness Month, Cayman CARIFTA, Cayman Islands Agriculture Show, Dr Bill Hrudedy Science Fair, Earth Day Clean-Up, Honouring Women Month, International Men's Day, Island Games Association of the Cayman Islands, Lions Club of Grand Cayman PACCE, Lions Club of Tropical Gardens Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Sister Islands Agriculture Show, UCCI STEM Camp

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► Limited activity at Spotts Dock



► Carnival at Spotts Dock

The Cost of a Nor'wester

... Continued story from page A1

the next few days we can put all our differences aside and spread that good old Caymanian love over our nation.

The power of the sea

"He hath founded it upon the seas" appears on the Cayman Islands Coat of Arms, and also our flag. It comes from Psalm 24:2, and it is really part of who we are.

These small islands are at the very top of a huge underwater mountain, and are surrounded by vast stretches of some of the deepest oceans in the world.

It is a sea that the Cayman seafarers of old feared, loved, and respected in equal measure, as they made a name for themselves, first in the sturdy schooners that were built here, and next as crew of the huge oil tankers that sailed the world.

Yet it is easy to forget the power, and even the danger of the sea. Even experienced fishermen can run into trouble

when they venture out. It is easy to underestimate the strength and danger of a single wave.

During the week the police taped off areas of George Town because of the big waves that the sea sent crashing onto the waterfront. Lots of people came out to look even though the waves were still huge.

The stormy sea has always inspired and thrilled the human heart. Here's a selection of quotes by some famous people about the power and lure of the sea:

"We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea, whether it is to sail or to watch - we are going back from whence we came." - John F. Kennedy

"If you live a life of make-believe, your life isn't worth anything until you do something that does challenge your reality. And to me, sailing the open ocean is a real challenge, because it's life or death." - Morgan Freeman

"Ocean is more ancient than the mountains, and freighted with the mem-



► Rough Seas in George Town

ories and the dreams of Time." - H. P. Lovecraft

"The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea." - Isak Dinesen

"The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever." - Jacques Cousteau

"He that will learn to pray, let him go to sea." - George Herbert

"The human heart is like a ship on a stormy sea driven about by winds blowing from all four corners of heaven." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The roaring of lions, the howling of wolves, the raging of the stormy sea, and the destructive sword, are portions of eternity, too great for the eye of man." - William Blake



► Royal Caribbean at Spotts Dock



► A slow day for Bus Drivers

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CIS Claims Inter-Primary Swim Title

By Flynn Bush

On Friday, December 13th the Lions Pool was buzzing with little swimmers and adult spectators. The annual Inter-Primary Swim Meet, which has continued to grow each year, was set to begin at 9:30am. The teams were there; the private schools and public schools alike. Each group had their best swimmers registered and were prepared for the day of intense competition. Traditionally, this meet is among the best organized and well-run primary school sporting events; and this year would not disappoint.

From the very beginning, the swimmers were chomping at the bit to show what they are capable of; whether they had been swimming for years, or they had recently started. From the first start signal, there were many outstanding performances turned in, and many personal bests set. There were individual stars shining from just about every school represented at the meet. On the team level, however, there was a continuation of what has become the norm over the past few years; a few private schools roared to the front on points. The trio of Cayman International, Cayman Prep, and St. Ignatius started racking up massive scores almost immediately.

Eventually, as the day progressed, Prep and CIS proved to be the two stronger programs. On the girls' side, Prep gained the advantage with CIS in second. For points garnered by male swimmers, the result was flipped, with CIS out in front.

As mentioned, St. Ignatius was close to the front as well. However, it has been a given for many years now that the Cayman Brac swimmers will make a splash, and they continued that trend. With superb performances from the likes of Cristiano Ritch, Marsee Walton, Yseanah Smith, Seaniah Smith, Taygan McFarlane, Che Scott, William Boddin, and others, the small team from our sister island proved formidable. In fact, one could justifiably say that it was the best school on the day with regard to points-per-school population.

Ryan Mushin, the Senior Swim Instructor for the Department of Sports, and organizer of this meet, was very impressed with the performances on the day. "I was very excited. The students all came ready to swim and gave it their all. The parents can be very proud of each one."

Obviously, with a swim meet of this size, volunteers are very important. Mr. Mushin wanted to express his gratitude to those officials who helped make the meet successful. "Because of everyone who helped today, this meet continued the tradition of being well-run and efficient. I am proud of everyone and I am very thankful for their help. For fear of leaving someone out, I will not list names, but I hope that everyone knows how much their help meant to me."

After all was said and done, the cream rose to the top, as the saying goes. It was time to crown the overall champion. The points were close, but CIS ended claiming the title. It was a well-deserved win and the overall points table shows the amount of hard work



that has been put in by these young swimmers and their coaches of all the different schools. Until the next meet, however, Cayman International School will lay claim to the title of Inter-primary Swim Meet Champions. 🌐

Maples Group Support Music Programme at BVI High School

The Maples Group is proud to announce its support of the newly built music classrooms at Elmore Stouff High School ("ESHS") in the British Virgin Islands.

Since the 2017 hurricanes, due to extensive damage to their facilities, ESHS has been unable to offer an abundance of extra-curricular activities. The Maples Group partnered with BVI Alliance and Unite BVI to fund the development of the new classrooms through a local community initiative identified by the Virgin Islands Recovery and Development Agency (the "RDA").

Over 100 students have enrolled in the popular music programme this year which was formally matriculated into the school's curriculum in 1980.

The Maples Group also sponsored the purchase of 29 new musical instruments which included 10 flutes, 10 clarinets, 5 alto saxophones, 2 tenor saxophones, 1 baritone saxophone and 1 trumpet.

Last month, students and teachers from ESHS welcomed the arrival of the new instruments with great excitement and marked the occasion with a formal handover of the instruments to the school's Deputy Principal, Mr. Cecil Hodge and the Head of the Music

Department, Andre Brathwaite. Connie George, Chief Education officer, Dr. the Honourable, Natalio Wheatley and Minister for Education, Culture, Youth Affairs, Fisheries and Agriculture were also present at the presentation.

BVI Managing Partner of Maples and Calder, the Maples Group's law firm, Richard May attended the school's annual Christmas concert on Saturday and had this to say, "The Maples Group is passionate about supporting and developing our local communities with a particular focus on youth, education, arts and culture. We are delighted to be supporting the music programme at Elmore Stouff High School which is a programme that not only supports educating our youth about the importance of arts and culture but also brings our community together. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the Elmore Stouff High School and its teaching staff on this important initiative."

The much-anticipated annual Christmas concert included performances from the Senior Concert Band, Junior Concert Band, Senior Steel Pan, Junior Steel Pan, the Jazz Ensemble and the Choir.

Commenting on the project, Paul Bayly, CEO of the RDA added, "The ed-



► Maples Group Photo

ucation system of this Territory was immensely disrupted after the 2017 hurricane and as an agency, it was important to us to deliver the Government's priorities' in returning the education system

to a place of normalcy. We are extremely grateful that the music classrooms project supported this initiative and of course, this could not have been done without the generous support of our donors the Unite BVI Foundation, Maples Group and BVI Alliance."

The Education Minister, Honourable Wheatley who was present at the presentation of the musical instruments added, "I would also like to recognise the Maples Group for their generosity towards purchasing the Musical Instruments. The Maples Group has made it possible for the music programme to be strengthened and for that we say thank you. I'll also thank the RDA, the implementation agency of the Government, for the important role they played in getting the instruments to the students." 🌐



► Band Director accepts Music Instrument



► ESHS Jr. School

Christmas 2019 message from Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin

... Continued story from page A2

always to forge an even better Cayman Islands. That has been my singular motivation over my nineteen years in public office - to serve my people and to move our beloved country forward.

I believe most would agree, our Islands are in a far better place today than we were when I first took office as Premier in 2013. Over the remaining seventeen months of this term, I intend, along with my Government, to 'roll up our sleeves' and work even harder to ensure that a progressive Cayman pro-

vides opportunities for all Caymanians, regardless of social standing, now and into the future.

Your unity Government, as we have shown in our recent budget, will complete the work we promised to do and have started, including key infrastructure projects.

We remain steadfast in our ambition to improve the lives of our people, especially the most vulnerable. We will continue the fight to protect the opportunities for employment and prosperity of all Caymanians and residents for years to come.

We will continue to ensure that the opportunities created are available for Caymanians from all walks of life - not just the privileged.

Yes, this past year has been one of many blessings and challenges. And I recognise that some in our community have not always agreed with the Government's plans to move the country forward. But that is proof that democracy is alive and well in our Islands. And I would not have it any other way.

Because we live in a democratic society we have many freedoms, one of which is the right to worship and with that the ability to celebrate Christmas and the season of joy.

It is at Christmas that we recognize the greatest gift of all, the birth of the Christ child. We recall and celebrate that God sent his only begotten Son, Jesus, to be born amongst us, bringing great joy and love to the world.

Christmas in these Islands is a religious time but it is also a time for family and for the carrying on of traditions. It is family and traditions that help bind us together as a people.

I wish each of you happiness as you take time to be with families and friends,

gathering to reminisce and catch up, eating Christmas beef or ham but in true Caymanian tradition always sharing our food, our stories and creating new memories with loved ones.

I know that I will cherish this day as I slow down a bit and spend time with family and friends.

Sadly, there are some families, my own included, that will have an empty chair at the table this Christmas. But we cherish the time we had with the loved ones who have gone on and while we miss them, we remember them and Christmases past with fondness and affection.

As we celebrate this Christmas, let us also pause and reflect on the many blessings we have received over the past year. And let us remember Christ's admonition to us - that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

On this Christmas Day, we have much for which to be thankful and we are blessed when we give, whether it is a shiny present, fellowship, a hug or a simple smile.

On behalf of myself and my Government, I wish each of you a wonderful Christmas filled with love, laughter and many blessings. 🌐



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New Camana Bay Development Projects Approved

At its meeting on 18 December 2019, the Central Planning Authority (CPA) approved applications by Dart for the development of a new commercial office building and residential apartment building in Camana Bay.

With Dart's most recent projects – the Cayman International School (CIS) Early Childhood Centre, CIS High School expansion, and new Foster's flagship store – employing over 100 local contractors and more than 700 individual employees, it is anticipated that the new developments will generate significant employment opportunities for local contractors.

Preliminary works, permitted under the Camana Bay subdivision, are already underway at both sites. Construction for both projects will begin in January 2020, with the new commercial office building expected to be completed by 2021 and the residential building by 2022.

President Business Development Jackie Doak says, with the town centre's Class A office space nearing capacity and residential apartments fully leased since opening in 2009, the new developments are driven by client demand.

"The fact that larger commercial tenants are choosing to relocate to Camana Bay and existing tenants are expanding into more office space, is testament both to the strength of the local economy and the appeal of the amenity rich environment that Camana Bay offers," she says. "We are also experiencing significant demand from international companies looking to establish a physical presence for economic substance or just to create a foothold in the Cayman Islands."

Doak says accessibility and connectivity are hallmarks of the sustainable design principles that Camana Bay embodies.

"With the recent CIS expansion and the opening of the new Foster's flagship store, companies want to locate their operations where it makes sense for their business and employees," she says.

Dart will begin pre-leasing for the new commercial space early in 2020.

In keeping with the design ethos that guides the master-planned community, both the five-storey office building, located to the west of Dart's headquarters on Nexus Way, and the 10-storey, for-lease apartment block on Bismarckia Way emphasise walkability and green design.

Taller buildings at Camana Bay are an essential component of scaling the lifestyle benefits for an increasing population by maximising density while keeping development footprints small, reducing sprawl, increasing energy savings and conserving resources. Dart also plans to construct the new residential building to FitWel certification.

Launched in 2017, FitWel is a green building certification programme that aims to enhance human health through targeted improvements in the built environment. While FitWel overlaps with LEED® in several areas, including water, air quality and outdoor spaces, the programme goes beyond environmental sustainability to include a more holistic understanding of how built environments contribute to human health and sustainable communities.



► Camana Bay Aerial

POLICE NEWS

RCIPS 2019 Holiday Safety Campaign Continues

... Continued story from page A1

the RCIPS encourages drivers to take the Purple Ribbon Pledge to not drink and drive over the holiday season. Visit the **National Drug Council** (www.facebook.com/NDCCayman) for more information.

"These programs provide additional incentives for persons to choose not to drink and drive, especially during the busy period between Christmas and the New Year," said Inspector Dwayne Jones of the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit. "So if you do intend to drink, it is essential that you make plans in advance to use one of these alternatives, whether that means taking advantage of the Designated Driver campaign, taking a taxi, or using the Purple Ribbon Bus on New Year's Eve. Whatever

the situation, there is no excuse for choosing to drink and drive."

Another aspect of increased police activity during the holiday season has been strengthening crime and robbery prevention in the business community during this period of heightened commercial activity and late opening hours. Community Police officers have been conducting evening foot patrols this week in main commercial areas around the island to increase visibility and reassurance to business owners and shoppers.

A targeted increase in police presence, both in commercial areas and on the road, will continue until the New Year with the intention of ensuring a safe holiday season for members of the public as they travel the roads and do their shopping.

Assault in West Bay

At about 9:00PM on Thursday, 19 December, officers responded to a report of a serious assault at an address off Captains Joe and Osbert Road in West Bay.

It was reported that two men known to each other were involved in an altercation, when one of the men struck the other several times

in the face before leaving the location.

Emergency services attended the location and the victim was taken to the hospital for treatment for his injuries. It was later determined that he had suffered a fractured jaw.

The matter remains under police investigation.

Robbery in George Town

Shortly after 10:00PM on Thursday, 19 December, officers responded to a report of a robbery at an address off Spruce Lane in George Town. A man was in the parking lot of an apartment complex when he was approached by an unknown male who brandished a handgun and demanded cash. The culprit then approached another man who was in a vehicle at the location before fleeing the scene with a quantity of cash and a mobile phone.

No shots were fired and neither of the victims were injured.

The suspect is described as being about 5'7" tall, of slim build, and was

dressed in all black and wearing a mask.

The matter is currently under investigation and anyone with any information or who may have seen something suspicious in the area on Thursday is asked to contact **George Town CID at 949-4222**.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our **Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777**, or via our **website** (www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip). Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Miami-based call centre of **Crime Stoppers at 800-8477(TIPS)**, or **online** (www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=681).

LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT

Feeling afraid, trapped or silenced through physical, financial or emotional abuse is control...**not love.**

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre offers services to help victims of domestic violence.

24 Hour Crisis Line - 943-2422

24/7 Safe Shelter - safe house for women and their children

Estella's Place - walk-in centre for all victims of domestic abuse

Aftercare Programme - for victims after leaving the shelter

If you are a victim of domestic violence, contact us now and find out how we can help.



CICC.ky
949 0366
info@cicc.ky



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cayman Brac's Grand Finale Christmas Event

27 December - Cayman Brac's Grand Finale Christmas Event - presented by the Spot Bay Christmas Homecoming Committee is on December 27th at 9pm at Mrs. Viviva's Backyard. Contact Liz Walton-Thompson at 9253924 or lizw.bracmla@candw.ky.

The Holy Innocents Mass

28 December - All are welcomed to St. George's Anglican Church as they host The Holy Innocents Mass at 10am. This will be followed by a Fun Day. For more information, call 949-5583 or visit www.stgeorgescayman.org.ky

Free HIV Screenings

31 December - Free, confidential HIV screenings sponsored by the Public Health Department are available this Tuesday and every Tuesday at the Cayman Islands Red Cross on Huldah Avenue, George Town from 10am to 2pm. Call 949-6785 for more information.

New Year's Eve Mass

31 December - New Year's Eve Mass will be held at 6pm at St. Ignatius, followed by Thanksgiving

Eucharist Adoration at 10pm and Mass at 11.

New Year's Eve Fireworks

31 December - Ring in the start of a new decade by enjoying firework displays all across the island. You have a choice of early fireworks at 9:00pm at Camana Bay or join families and friends on Seven Mile Beach to ring in the 2020 with awesome spectacles.

Happy New Year!

1 January - Happy New Year to everyone. Best wishes to all as we move into the new decade 2020. May your year be filled with peace and joy.

Annual Bodden Town Garden Party

1 January - Webster Memorial United Church invites all to the Annual Bodden Town Garden Party at the new location, Nurse Josie Centre located at the Harry McCoy Park on New Year's day from 11am to 5pm.

Ultimate Frisbee 2020

7 January - Looking for a good sweat, lose a few pounds and have a good time? Check out ultimate Frisbee at the Annex field

in George Town (beside George Town primary school). There are casual, coed pickup games on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6pm to 7:30pm. Open to all fitness and ability levels, newcomers are welcome!

One Dog Jog 5K Charity Fun Walk/Run

12 January - Support the "One Dog at a Time" fundraising event on Sunday 12 January at Safehaven beginning at 7am. Registration is CI\$25 and can be done on caymanactiv.com. Bring your own water bottle to limit trash and be environmentally friendly. Dogs must be leashed at all times. Owners, please use a yellow ribbon to show if your dog needs extra space. For more information, visit www.odaat.ky

Cayman Cookout

16 - 19 January - Cayman Cookout is hosted by chef Eric Ripert in partnership with Cayman Islands Department of Tourism and brings together talented chefs, wine and spirit experts, and culinary influencers. It is in one of the most prestigious celebrations of food and wine in the world. Guests at this exclusive, interactive festival enjoy dynamic cooking demonstrations, exclusive tastings and dining events, exciting local tours and unique epicurean experienc-



es. For more information, visit www.caymancookout.com.

CI\$35 per person. Contact 749-1121 or info@nationaltrust.org.ky for more information.

Employment & The Labour Law - Part 1: Understanding the Basics

21 January - The Chamber of Commerce is offering a comprehensive course at 107 Governors Square, West Bay from 9am to 1pm. This half day course will provide an in-depth overview of the major components of the Labour Law and will cover the employment contract, types of leave, hours of work, severance pay and termination. It will be conducted by Huw Moses and/or Hilary Brooks. The cost is \$250 for members and \$300 for future members. Call 949-8090 for more information.

Stride Against Cancer

26 January - The Nationwide Stride Against Cancer, a fundraising event to benefit the Cayman Islands is Sunday January 26th starting at Seven Mile Beach and Saturday 25th for the Little Cayman Stride. CI\$25 early bird registration until midnight on January 11th, after which the cost is CI\$30. No registration on the day of the event. Race packets (t-shirts) can be collected from the Cayman Islands Cancer Society offices from January 20th. Start time is 6:00am for the 13.1 mile half marathon timed race. It's a 6:30am start for the 6.5 mile quarter marathon walk / run. Check <https://www.cics.ky> for more information.

Traditional Craft Class: DIY Art Workshop with Kara Julian

January 25 - The National Trust will be hosting a Traditional Craft Class to be conducted by Kara Julian. This will take place at The Mission House, 63 Gun Square Road, Bodden Town from 10:00am to 12:30pm. The cost is

Heroes Day

27 January - National Heroes Day is a public holiday celebrated in the Cayman Islands on the fourth Monday in January. Awards are presented to persons who have made a significant impact to the Cayman Islands. 🇮🇰



Open for Motivation!

If you're struggling to find motivation to get to exercise, allow these seven reasons to inspire you to get moving...

Exercise Because — Your Body Works

It may seem like an odd reason to work out, but the fact that you can work out ought to inspire you to do so. After all there are plenty of folks who have been affected by disease or congenital conditions that make working out impossible. If you are able to exercise, do it! Every movement you make, be grateful and work to learn your body's limits. In essence when you do this you're giving your body a high five!

Exercise Because — Disease Can't Handle It

True, there are diseases that will attack you regardless of your fitness level. However, exercising regularly (starting today) is one of the best ways to build yourself up against all sorts of ailments and illnesses. From the common cold to heart disease, exercise helps you avoid health issues and live a healthier, longer life.

Exercise Because — You Family Loves You

Because you want to be around for years in the future, you need to exercise. As seen above, exercise is a great way to fend off all sorts of health issues, many of them life-threatening. So if you want to show love to you family members who love you, you'll need to work out regularly. Afraid your workouts will take away family time? Get up earlier or take your loved ones with you.

Exercise Because — You Beat Goals

Some people meet goals. When you commit to getting in the gym today, you set yourself up to beat goals. Because once you reach your new bench-press or weight-loss goal, you move on to the next. Do this in the gym enough and it will start to happen in the rest of your life. Deadline at work coming up soon? No problem. Wish you could read more books? Consider it done. Ready to quit smoking? You can do it. All because you worked out today.

Exercise Because — Life Will Be Easier

Ever struggled to get out of bed and get on with your day? Exercising today



► Ernest Ebanks

can help that. Wonder why you always feel stressed out? Once you get in the gym this afternoon you'll be able to shed the stress. Wish you had the sex drive that you seemingly lost a few years ago? Today's workout will get you on the right track there as well. See a heavy couch that needs lifting? After spending time in the gym today, that couch will be light as a feather tomorrow. In other words, exercise makes everything in life better, easier, and more bearable!

Exercise Because — Your Body Will Surprise You

When you started on your exercise journey, you wanted to change your body. But somewhere along the way you forgot about that swimsuit-ready body you desired so much early on. Well, guess what? It can still be yours! All you've got to do is get in the gym today and get back on the road to it. In six months, you'll be amazed at how much better your body looks and how much more you enjoy being you.

Exercise Because — Your Friends Will Join You

It can be hard to keep working out in the gym every day if your loved ones aren't into it. However, if you stick with it and trust your trainer, your loved ones may eventually want to join you in your exercise. Once they realize you're seeing positive results, they won't want to miss out. So by going to the gym today, you're helping others be healthy!

Call Ernest at 325-8696 or email me today at bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com today to get started on my very best exercise program - together we will get you to your goals once and for all! Don't wait - act now! 🇮🇰

CARDAMOM

This is a spice with a slightly sweet, intense flavour that most people compare to mint. Its origin is India but is used worldwide in a vast majority of savoury recipes. The seeds, oil and extracts have been used for centuries and known to have many health benefits. Here are some reasons for its use:



LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE - Its antioxidant properties are responsible for this. In fact, researchers believe that it can lower pressure due to its diuretic effects, which mean it can promote urination to reduce water build up in the body.

CANCER FIGHTING PROPERTIES - Studies in mice have shown that the cardamom powder can increase the activity of certain enzymes that fight cancer. The spice may also enhance the ability of natural killer cells to attack tumours.

ANTI-INFLAMMATORY - Antioxidants which are abundant in cardamom protect cells from damage and stops inflammation from occurring.

AIDS DIGESTION - It is used widely with other herbs to relieve discomfort, nausea and vomiting. The most researched aspect of cardamom is its

shown ability to heal ulcers. Test tube research has also shown that it can protect against Helicobacter pylori, a bacteria linked to the development of most stomach issues.

IMPROVES BREATHING AND OXYGEN USE - When used in Aromatherapy, it can provide an invigorating odour that enhances your body's ability to utilize oxygen during exercise. It has also been shown to relax the airways making breathing easier; therefore, it is beneficial for those who have asthma.

LIVER - Cardamom extract may decrease elevated liver enzymes, triglyceride and cholesterol levels. They may also prevent liver enlargement and liver weight which reduces the risk of fatty liver disease. Try adding it with cinnamon and ginger to make a refreshing tea. 🇮🇰



WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

| Friday | Saturday | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 28°/25° | 28°/26° | 28°/26° | 28°/26° | 28°/26° | 27°/26° | 28°/26° |
| Partly sunny and nice | Partly sunny | Mostly sunny and pleasant | Mostly sunny and beautiful | Times of clouds and sun | A passing afternoon shower | Windy; a shower in the a.m. |

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION



What is the meaning of Christmas, Charlie Brown?

By The Rev'd Christopher Pierce
Rector, St Alban's Church
George Town
www.churchofenglandcayman.org

On 9 December 1965, CBS aired the Charlie Brown Christmas special for the first time. Charles Schulz, the author of the comic strip decided to do something unique. He would address the matter of Christmas from a religious perspective. The brass at CBS were not pleased. They tried to get him to change it. They threatened to drop the show...but it had already been advertised and Charlie Brown, Snoopy, the insecure Linus, Pig Pen, Lucy, Peppermint Patti, etc. were hugely popular with young children. It would have been a financial disaster to cancel.

So, Schulz got his way and the show aired just as he had wanted...with Linus reading the account from the Gospel According to St Luke from the Authorised Version of the Bible.



► The Rev'd Christopher Pierce, Rector, St Alban's Church George Town

From the script of that year:
Linus Van Pelt: "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not:'"

[Linus drops his security blanket on purpose]

Linus Van Pelt: "for behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And

suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'"

And there it was, Schulz using the animated creation of Linus Van Pelt, had answered the question, "What is the real meaning of Christmas?"

It was simple. It was direct. It was historically accurate. It was true...and still is!

May the joy of Christmas and the love our Saviour Jesus Christ be yours in abundance! 🙏

Merry Christmas!

OBITUARIES

The Family of the Late
Guy V. McDaniel
regret to announce his
passing on
Monday, 23 December
2019.



A funeral service will
be announced at
a later date.

Bodden Funeral
"A source of comfort in a troubled time"

On December 18th, my Grandson Zion John Coutouzis celebrated his 9th month Birthday on this great earth which is truly a blessing for this miracle baby.

On behalf of the Felder and Coutouzis families we wanted to say thanks to all the local community for all their prayers.

Every day is a struggle for him because of his illness, but he brought so very many people closer to God.

John C Felder

Hurley's Media brings Christmas joy to DCFS children

Hurley's Media has once again teamed up with the Department of Children and Family Services for the 25th annual Christmas for Kids event, bringing together over 170 children, parents and caretakers for a fun filled day out with a Christmas theme.

Hurley's Media staff volunteered their time doing arts and crafts, assisting Santa with present giveaways, basketball, roller skating and much more.

Proceeds and donations from sponsors meant Hurley's Media were not only able to put on a great event, \$9,952 was donated to the Department of Children and Family Services which will be used to purchase presents and Christmas food for local children who are in the social service program.

"Christmas for Kids is a fantastic opportunity to give back to the community. Seeing children, who may not have a chance to experience Christmas festivities, brings the team at Hurley's Media so much joy. After all, it is the season of giving," said Shawna Marshall, event organizer.

"We are incredibly grateful to the team at Hurley's Media for making this event possible. It is always a huge success and we love seeing the children walk away with big smiles on their faces," said Mrs. Paulinda Mendoza-Williams, Director of



the Department of Children and Family Services.

An occasion traditionally organized by Cayman 27, the team at Hurley's Media were proud to be able to continue bringing this event to life.

"Contributing to something larger than ourselves not only strengthens the connection within our own organization, it also makes for stronger community relations," Mrs. Marshall said.

Christmas for Kids was made possible thanks to sponsors Aureum Re, Cayman Water, Kensington Management, Edies Décor, Bedell Cristin, Island Taste, RE/MAX, Krys Global, Carey Olsen, Crighton Properties, Webster's Tours, Queensgate, Majestic Tours, BDO, Island Heritage, CIBC First Caribbean Bank, Britcay, Rocky's Diamonds, CITCO, Davenport, Cayman National and Maples Group. 🙏

LOVELY PLANTS FOR SALE

LOVELY NORFOLK ISLAND PINE
5 TO 6FT. TALL.
GOOD FOR CHRISTMAS TREE AND TO PLANT OUTDOORS FOR NEXT YEAR.

BEAUTIFUL ARECA PALMS FOR DECORATION.
OTHER PLANTS AVAILABLE ALSO.

CALL 917 - 0468 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE — WEEK — DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 4



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Brilliance of the Seas | Adventure of the Seas | Carnival Paradise | Regal Princess (NEW) | MSC Armonia | Independence of the Seas |
| | Celebrity Reflection | Carnival Legend | MSC Meraviglia | Carnival Glory | Volendam | AIDAdiva |
| | Carnival Conquest | Norwegian Breakaway | Nieuw Amsterdam | Celebrity Equinox | | M S Sirena |
| | | Carnival Vista | Carnival Sensation | Vidanta Elegant | | |
| | | | Berlin | | | |
| | | | Seabourn Sojourn | | | |
| | | | Liberty of the Seas | | | |
| Total Passengers |
| 0 | 8 520 | 12 724 | 16 202 | 9 684 | 3 623 | 7 134 |

Expressions of Interest invited
Lease of Country Western Bar and Restaurant
 Caymanian Interest sought for lease of local Bar and Restaurant currently in operation with available parking.
 Expressions of interest in this business are invited from Cayman Residents on or before January 31, 2020. Interested parties should provide evidence of financial ability to participate in a business of this nature supported by a letter from a financial institution within the Cayman Islands.
 Alcohol sales and Music & Dancing licenses are included in the lease.
 Interested parties should call 916 0932 or email countrywesternbar@gmail.com

DOTS Thrift Store
 Waltons Centre
 Eastern Avenue
 321 – 2294
 Is having a Christmas Sale going on now. Just come in and you will find lots of things – clothes, shoes, kids' toys and lots more.
 You can also full a bag for just \$10.00



Puritan Cleaners & Daco Water Specialties take this opportunity to thank all our customers for their continued patronage over the years. Have a safe & Merry Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous 2020! Premium quality for over 60 years your leading Launderers, Drycleaners and now using the most popular and Eco-Friendly Cleaning Solvents. Seamstress on duty. Happy Holidays!



Daco Water Specialties
 A division of Puritan Cleaners
 Call 526-1038 / 926-1038 / 949-7104
 Website: www.puritan.ky



Puritan Cleaners
 Professional Launderers & Dry Cleaners
 With 3 convenient locations to serve you.
 Savannah Countryside • Tel#: 946-1884
 Elgin Avenue • Tel#: 949-2452
 Eastern Avenue Drive Thru Rain or Shine • Tel: # 949-7104
 Email: puritangc@candw.ky

All stores Close at 5:00 PM, 24th December & 31st December 2019.
 All stores will reopen at 7:30 AM from December 27th – December 31st, 2019.
 We will reopen again at 7:30 AM on the 2nd of January 2020.

You feel good when you look good!



SPORTING YEAR IN REVIEW



► Deontay Wilder has a rematch with Fury in February



► The West Indies side is coming good at last

Wilder's year begins with more Fury

Boxing had another fantastic year of great fights in 2019, with more mouth-watering action to come in 2020.

Boxing featured its share of news-making events throughout the year, but fight fans felt deprived of bouts between certain elite fighters because of promotional or TV-linked conflicts.

For close to two decades, the heavyweight class lost appeal in the United States. But Deontay Wilder, the WBC champion since 2015, has gradually increased awareness with his knockout-winning performances.

Wilder twice retained his sanctioning body belt. In May, the "Bronze Bomber" stopped Dominic Breazale in one round and finished Cuban Luis Ortiz with a one-punch seventh-round knockout six months later. The 2008 US Olympics bronze medal winner is now considered one of the best heavyweight punchers in history.

While Wilder solidified his reign, England's Anthony Joshua lost his three heavyweight titles against Andy Ruiz Jr on his American debut at Madison Square Garden in June. Joshua reclaimed his belts with a unanimous points win in the rematch a month ago. Wilder has a rematch with Tyson Fury in February, a fight that could go either way judging how close their first encounter was when a controversial draw was given when the 30-year-old Brit looked as if he had done enough to get the verdict.

Mexico's Saul "Canelo" Alvarez retained his middleweight title with a close decision over Daniel Jacobs in May and passed on his customary September fight date for a history-seeking light-heavyweight title challenge against champion Sergey Kovalev in November. Alvarez stopped Kovalev in 11 rounds to win a fourth world title in a separate weight class. Alvarez recently vacated his light-heavyweight belt and is expected to fight as a middleweight or super-middleweight next year.

The sport again proved that its best fighters can be showcased in stadiums instead of arenas. Welterweight champion Errol Spence Jr. won a convincing decision over four-division champion Mikey Garcia at Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas in front of 47,000 fans.



► Cori "Coco" Gauff, 15, made her breakthrough at Wimbledon

In September, Spence won a close split decision over Shawn Porter but is currently side-lined through injuries sustained in a car accident in October. Spence spoke publicly for the first time since the accident last week and said he will return in 2020.

Spence fights in, arguably, boxing's most competitive division. Fellow welterweight champion Terence Crawford is possibly the best of the 147-pound fighters. The three-division champion stopped Amir Khan in seven rounds in April and scored a ninth-round TKO over Egidijus Kavaliauskas three weeks ago.

Manny Pacquiao continues to defy age. Despite turning 41 on Dec. 17, "Pacman" began his fourth stint as welterweight champion with a unanimous decision over Adrien Broner in January. Six months later, Pacquiao capitalised on a first-round knockdown and won a split decision against previously unbeaten Keith Thurman.

After his efforts at landing a third bout with Alvarez were unsuccessful, Gennady Golovkin recaptured a middleweight belt. Golovkin, who enjoyed a seven-year, 20-fight championship run before a disputed majority deci-



► Tiger Woods winning the Masters was amazing

sion loss to Alvarez in 2018, won a narrow unanimous decision over Sergey Derevyanchenko for a vacant title in October.

Ukraine's Vasiliy Lomachenko is undoubtedly the pound-for-pound king. The brilliant lightweight champ stopped Anthony Crolla in four rounds in April and won a wide decision against Luke Campbell, another Brit, in August.

In other sports, England won the cricket World Cup, thanks to the superlative talents of Ben Stokes, admirably backed up the sizzling speed and accuracy of fast Barbados-born bowler Jofra Archer. Gymnast Simone Biles continues to dominate the sport to the extent that some of her routines have only ever been done by men.

Tiger Woods seemed a former legend for most of the last decade until that amazing Masters win out of the blue. South Africa won the rugby World Cup, led by their first black captain Siya Kolisi. Liverpool won the Champions League, beating fellow Premiership side Tottenham Hotspurs in the final. The Reds look likely to finally win their first Premiership title, the first league championship in their illustrious history for 30 years. The UFC has a new superstar in middle-

weight champion Israel Adesanya, who may eventually move up to light-heavy and face formidable champ Jon "Bones" Jones. At welterweight, Kamaru Usman is a brilliant champion too, which reinforces the fact that mixed martial arts is infinitely more entertaining than boxing because it is so better run where the best are forced to meet the best.

As Serena Williams' tennis career winds down, the emergence of Cori "Coco" Gauff means that a black grand slam champ looks guaranteed for many years to come. Gauff burst on the scene at Wimbledon, aged 15, and impressed with an ability that belied her age. She will be winning big tournaments soon. West Indies cricket seems finally righting itself after years of mercurial performances. With the T20 World Cup to defend in Australia in October 2020, they look capable of making a successful defence. The Tokyo Olympics will be held in the summer and a host of great athletes will grab most of the media attention, particularly Shelly Ann Fraser-Pryce, Dina Asher Smith and Eliud Kipchoge, the first man to break the two-hour barrier in a marathon, albeit in a time trial.

Lewis Hamilton was crowned World Formula 1 champ for the sixth time, and he aims to equal Michael Schumacher's record of seven in 2020, in probably his last season with Mercedes as Ferrari have been making overtures for his services. The Toronto Raptors defied all odds to win their first NBA championship in 2019. It was seen by many as a fluke, but they are doing well this season so should not be written off so easily. In Super Bowl LII, the Philadelphia Eagles defeated the defending Super Bowl champions New England Patriots 41-33. Tom Brady, the Patriots QB, was smarting after that unexpected defeat and so far, this season they look like reaching the big one again. The Eagles can't be written off either. 🌐



► Jofra Archer made an impressive debut for England



► Simone Biles is dominating women's gymnastics



► Vasiliy Lomachenko (left) is in a class of his own at lightweight



► The Toronto Raptors unexpectedly beat the Warriors for the NBA title

GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

Police discussed shooting protestors

Canadian police discussed shooting indigenous protestors who were trying to stop a natural gas pipeline from being built on their land.

On Jan. 7, Royal Canadian Mounted Police armed with assault rifles arrested 14 land defenders when they cleared a checkpoint set up by the Wet'suwet'en nation to stop construction of the Coastal GasLink pipeline on their territory in northern British Columbia. Now, the documents obtained by The Guardian newspaper show that, in a strategy session before the raid to clear the road, the police argued that "lethal overwatch is req'd," meaning they wanted to use snipers.

Senior police officials also told their officers to "use as much violence toward the gate as you want." Police were ready to arrest both children and grandparents, and one document mentioned the possibility of sending children to social services. Historically, the police force forcibly removed indigenous children from their homes to place them in residential schools.



► Canada's indigenous protestors are vocal

"Here we are, nearly 2020 and we are still being threatened with violence, death, and the removal of our children for simply existing on our lands and following our laws," Sleydo, or Molly Wickham, a spokesperson for the Gidimt'en Checkpoint protestors who was arrested herself in January, said.

Coastal GasLink is owned by TC Energy, the company formerly known as TransCanada Pipelines, which is also the driving force behind the Keystone XL pipeline opposed by indigenous groups in both the US and Canada. CGL is set to run 670 kilometres (roughly 416 miles) from north-eastern British Columbia to a liquid natural gas facility in Kitimat that is yet to be constructed. 🌐

Bootleg coconut wines kill Filipinos

The Philippines medical services are having to deal with deaths and serious illness after hundreds of people drank contaminated coconut wine.

At least 11 people have died after drinking coconut wine, including some who were celebrating at a Christmas party.

Authorities also say more than 300 others were treated in hospital after consuming lambanog in Laguna and Quezon, south of Manila.

Many were admitted after Laguna's mayor, Vener Munoz in Rizal, urged people to see medical advice following the deaths between Thursday and Sunday.

Lambanog is popular in provinces and often consumed during holidays and celebrations. Unregulated production and sales of the beverage are common in the Philippines and it is often made illegally with dangerous additives.

Jonas Del Rosario, a spokesperson from the Philippine General Hospital,

said: "Lambanog is being fermented from the sap of a coconut flower. If it is fermented, it produces methanol during the fermentation. Sometimes, the lambanog being sold has too much methanol content."

The country's Food and Drug Administration has previously warned about the dangerous and prohibited use of methanol as an additive in home brews. The Department of Health said blood tests and samples of leftover lambanog would be collected and analysed. 🌐



► Lambanog is potentially deadly if not processed properly

Honduras sees outbreak of prison riots

Honduras is dealing with a spate of prison riots that has left many dead and seriously injured.

At least 16 inmates have been killed in a fight between rival gangs at a Honduran prison, less than two days after deadly violence at another jail. Officials said guns, knives and machetes were used in the fight on Sunday at El Porvenir prison east of the capital, Tegucigalpa.

On Friday, 18 inmates were killed and 16 hurt in the northern city of Tela. There has been a wave of prison violence in Honduras, where prisons are notoriously overcrowded.

The government declared a state of emergency in the prison system last Wednesday, transferring control to se-

curity forces. President Orlando Hernandez made the decision after five members of the notorious MS-13 gang were killed while in detention.

It was not clear what had triggered the outbreak of violence at El Porvenir prison, but government security official Luis Suazo said gangs there were trying to "reverse this process" of intervention. At least two other inmates were injured, officials added.

"The dead and wounded were attacked with bullets and sharp weapons," said Lt Antonio Coello. Honduran prisons house more than 20,000 inmates, despite only having capacity for about 8,000. Fights are common, as rival street gangs vie for control. 🌐



► A Honduran inmate is taken away after being injured

Cuba has first prime minister since 1976

Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel has appointed the country's first prime minister in more than 40 years - the tourism minister, Manuel Marrero Cruz.

The post of prime minister was scrapped in 1976 by the then revolutionary leader Fidel Castro. It was reinstated under the rules of a new constitution for the communist-run island passed almost a year ago.

Marrero, 56, will take on some of the responsibilities that currently fall to the president. "The head of government will be the administrative right hand of the president of the republic," state-run online news outlet Cubadebate said.

However, critics say any such changes are purely cosmetic as the Cuban Communist Party and the military remain the only two real decision-making institutions on the island.

Marrero's appointment was ratified unanimously by deputies in the National Assembly last Saturday. The state news-



► Manuel Marrero Cruz is the new Cuba prime minister

paper Granma described Marrero as a politician who had emerged "from the base" of the tourism industry, one of Cuba's main sources of foreign exchange.

In 2000 he was made president of the military-run Gaviota tourism group, whose hotels are subject to US sanctions under the Trump administration.

Marrero was named tourism minister in 2004 by Fidel Castro and has since overseen a major boost in tourism to the island. 🌐

Support for Guaidó wanes

Venezuela looks like continuing with President Nicolás Maduro's rule, despite the best efforts of the United States to oust him and replace him with Juan Guaidó.

Hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans protested in the streets at the start of 2019, wanting to believe that things would finally change in the country as upstart opposition leader Guaidó rallied international support and promised a swift end to Maduro's rule.

To many, Guaidó seemed different from the string of past opposition leaders who had challenged Maduro and his predecessor, the late Hugo Chavez, over 20 years of increasingly authoritarian socialist rule.

The US and dozens of nations had thrown their support behind the youthful congressional leader, recognising him as the country's legitimate president, arguing that Maduro's re-election was invalidated by fraud and a ban on most opponents.

And there seemed to be signs that the military might heed Guaidó's repeated calls for soldiers to abandon Maduro. A few joined him in the streets in a quickly quelled uprising. The US and other nations sent caravans of aid to Venezuela's borders to be distributed by Guaidó's



► Juan Guaidó is losing support to oust Maduro

backers, and they were put in charge of many Venezuelan embassies and assets abroad.

Then February turned to March, and the months marched by. No international aid made it through Maduro's blockade. The military stayed loyal. Even the nation's catastrophic economy began to improve slightly. Maduro remains in power.

Many no longer answers the opposition leader's call to protest, nor do most of the others who once filled the streets. Cracks have even appeared in Guaidó's base of support in the National Assembly, the only major institution controlled by the opposition. His re-election as congressional president is no longer assured, and legislators' official terms expire in a few months. 🌐

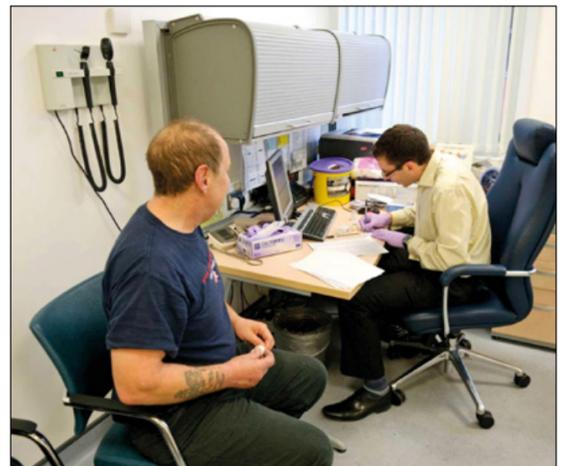
UK has too few doctors

The UK has the second lowest number of doctors in leading European nations relative to its population, according to research for the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

With 2.8 doctors per 1,000 people, compared with an average of 3.5 doctors across Western Europe, the UK shortage is second only to Poland.

This shortfall of doctors persists despite the OECD research showing that British general practitioners and specialists in the UK earn more than three times the average national salary.

The OECD report, which examined data between 2000 and 2017, also highlighted the UK's reliance on foreign-trained medics, with 28.7 percent of British doctors qualifying abroad, the fifth highest figure in Europe. At 15 percent, the UK had



► There are too few UK general practitioners

the second highest proportion of nurses trained abroad, after Switzerland.

However, over the past decade, the UK's share of foreign-trained doctors has decreased slightly as the number of domestically trained doctors increased more quickly. This contrasts with Germany and France, where the number and share of foreign-trained doctors grew steadily between 2007 and 2017. 🌐

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Last Greek

1 Fall flower letter

6 Drunkards 42 Pigs

10 River 43 Worker

boat with a pick

11 Use the 44 Sirius, for

gym one

13 Self-evident 45 Ledger

truth item

14 Like 9 Library

gymnasts 1 Ease up

15 Foot part 2 Invader of

16 Summer 17 Employ

mo. 20 Surpass

18 Rent 3 Attempted

out 4 Sense of

19 Seal of 5 Com-

approval 24 Sneaker

22 Luau 6 Theater

music 25 Wall

maker 39 One —

23 A single 7 Assn. 26 Due to be

time 8 Last part punished 41 Hr. part

24 Ninnies

27 Summed

28 Orange

cover

29 Need to

pay

30 Carrying

out of

laws

35 Commo-

tion

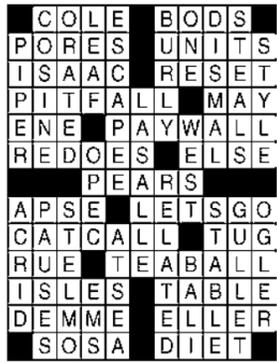
36 "— a

deal!"

37 Compete

38 Writer

Lessing



Saturday's answer

9 Library request

12 Pulled in

17 Employ

20 Surpass

21 Internet connector

24 Sneaker features

25 Wall features

26 Due to be punished

27 Impres-

sive

29 Fall mo.

31 Stair part

32 News subject

33 Neighbor of Chad

34 Sorrowful

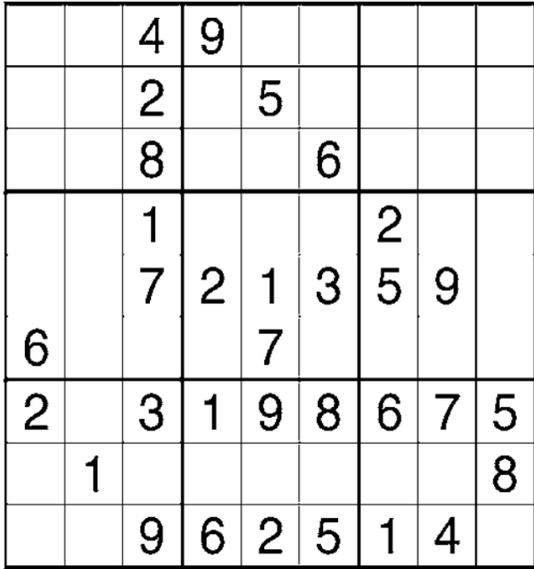
39 One — million

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 Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

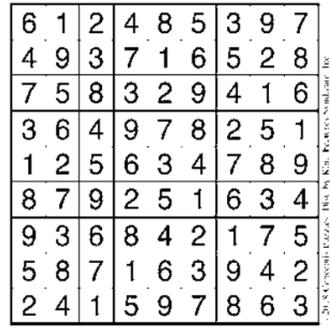
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

10/17

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★

Word Search



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



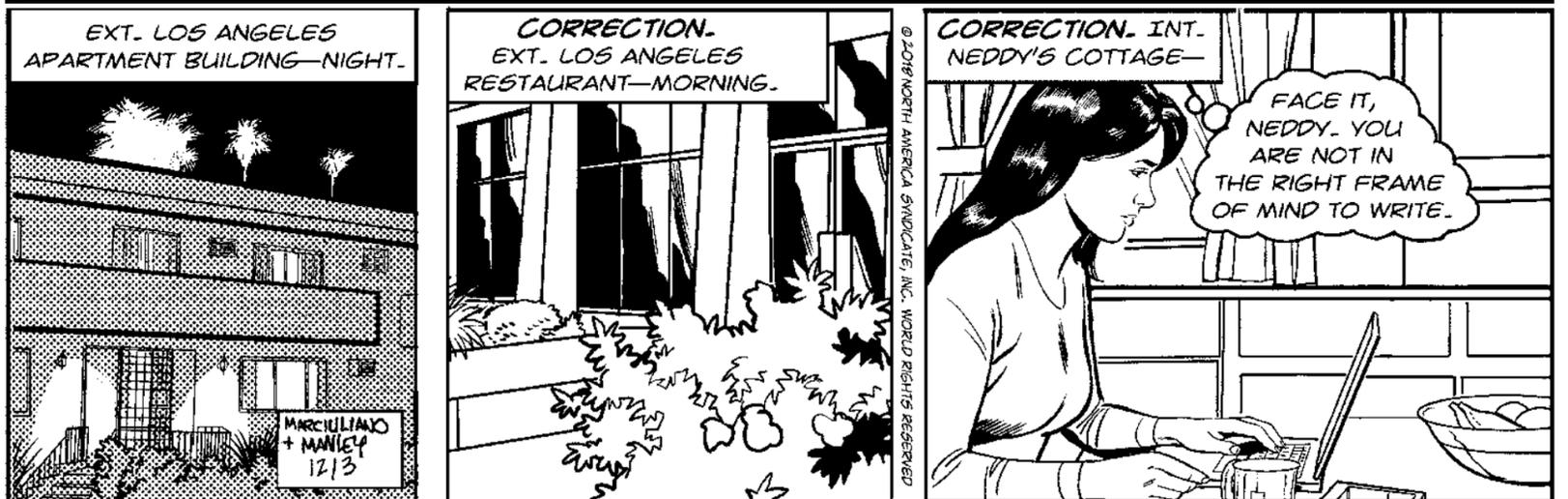
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