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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

● COMMUNITY NOTICES — A2



CIFS Reminds the Public about Tackling Fires

● GOVERNMENT — A4



Delegation Visits Culinary Institute

● LOCAL NEWS — A5



Clifton Hunter presents Options Assembly

● INTERNATIONAL — A7



Frozen iguanas were found in Florida

● REGIONAL — P14



Bermuda Spa Month helps tourism

# Record-breaking air arrivals for 2019



Full story on page A3 >>

## Delegation promotes Cayman's Financial Services



Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin on Tuesday delivered opening remarks at the 7th Annual Cayman Finance New York Breakfast Briefing on Tuesday, 21 January. Speaking at the briefing Premier McLaughlin thanked those in attendance for doing business with the Cayman Islands and provided a brief update on the stellar performance of Cayman's economy, including growth in the financial sector. He highlighted the country's commitment to supporting the sector and to ensuring that we do what is needed to protect our reputation as a quality international financial services centre.

Prior to the Premier speaking Mr Jude Scott, CEO of Cayman Finance gave the opening remarks and His Excellency the Governor welcomed those present to the briefing and spoke about

... Continued story on page A4

## CAYMAN ISLANDS CLOSELY MONITORING CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK IN CHINA

The Cayman Islands Public Health Department is keeping a close watch on the outbreak of the coronavirus in China which has now spread to other countries.

One person is known to have died in the United States who is said to have visited the area in China where the outbreak started.

There are no reported cases of the disease in the Cayman Islands and public health authorities here have assured that they are monitoring the situation closely.

... Continued story on page A7



Caymanian Times

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Needs Assessment Unit: Office Closures for Staff Training

The Needs Assessment Unit's (NAU) Grand Cayman office is closing on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 from 2 p.m. for staff training and its Brac office will be closed all day to facilitate a staff meeting.

The NAU apologises for any inconvenience this may cause. 🌐



## CIFS Reminds the Public about Tackling Fires

On Tuesday, 21 January 2020 at 4.27 pm, the Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) were called to a well-developed tree and hedge fire near the Old Hyatt building which was then safely extinguished.

Emerging video footage of the fire prior to the arrival of CIFS shows members of the public attempting to put the fire out with buckets of water and vehicles passing dangerously close.

CIFS would like to remind residents, businesses and visitors to the Cayman Islands that they should Get Out, Stay Out and dial 911 requesting fire and rescue. This includes outside wildfires where you should move to a safe distance, stay away and dial 911.

CIFS would only recommend tackling a small undeveloped fire where safe to do so with an appropriate fire extinguisher to prevent further escalation and calling 911 to report the fire as a matter of urgency.



Tackling larger fires, with no training, the wrong equipment or wrong extinguishing agent can lead to serious injuries or a fire related fatality and should be avoided in the interest of public safety. 🌐

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Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky

## CIGTV GUIDE FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 28 - 31



### Tuesday, 28 January

- 12:00 AM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
- 1:10 AM Miss Lassie Painting Conservation
- 1:20 AM Miss Lassie Architectural Conservation and Restoration
- 1:30 AM Miss Lassie Vision and History
- 1:35 AM Miss Lassie CNFC Board Perspective
- 1:40 AM DEH - Antimicrobial and the Environment
- 1:50 AM Ecosystem Services with Lauren Dombowski
- 2:00 AM News Update
- 2:20 AM Cruise Berthing and Cargo Facility Press Conference
- 3:30 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 4:00 AM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
- 5:10 AM Miss Lassie Painting Conservation
- 5:20 AM Miss Lassie Architectural Conservation and Restoration
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- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:20 AM Cruise Berthing and Cargo Facility Press Conference
- 7:30 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 8:00 AM Healthcare Conference September 26 2019
- 10:00 AM News Update
- 10:25 AM Healthcare Conference Dr. Lewis Warrington
- 11:20 AM Healthcare Conference Dr. Jason Markle
- 12:00 PM Healthcare Conference Dr. Erick Gryzbowski
- 12:45 PM News Update
- 1:05 PM Healthcare Conference Nasolo Thompson
- 1:45 PM NICE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 1:55 PM Healthcare Conference Dr. Kerry A. Rood
- 2:50 PM Healthcare Conference Dr. Ravi Kishore
- 3:35 PM News Update
- 4:00 PM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
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- 8:00 PM Healthcare Conference Dr. Troy A. Gatliff
- 8:40 PM News Update
- 9:00 PM Healthcare Conference Professor Virginia Murray
- 9:50 PM Cruise Berthing and Cargo Facility PB July 29 2019
- 11:00 PM Special Commemorative Town Hall Ceremony

### Wednesday, 29 January

- 12:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 12:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos "New"
- 12:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 1:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
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# Record-breaking air arrivals for 2019

## Stayovers reached the half million mark in 2019

A symbol of how strong Cayman's stayover tourism product has become over the last decade, stayover visitor arrivals topped the half a million mark for 2019, the Department of Tourism has advised.

The huge number of visitors (502,739 in total) who came to Cayman last year for a vacation via air was attributed to a steady growth in airlift and also in accommodation. This figure represented an 8.6 per cent increase over the same period in 2018 and was the highest number of stayover visitors in recorded history and tenth consecutive year of annual growth in stayover visits.

When broken down geographically, the number shows a marked increase in vacationers from the United States (up 33,293 on 2018), 3,525 more visitors from Canada and 829 more from the UK. Although these figures are for Grand Cayman, the Sister Islands also saw increases in air arrivals, with Cayman Airways recording a seven per cent increase in air arrivals in 2019 (visitors and residents) at 62,911, while Little Cayman recorded the most arrivals ever at 30,537.

Rosa Harris, Director of the Department of Tourism, said the rise of the 'homeshare' segment of new licensed tourism accommodation properties (such as Airbnb and Vrbo) had contributed to the increase in numbers.



"It is a great sense of accomplishment that the Department of Tourism is able to help the general public understand that tourism involves everyone. We remain committed to embracing travel trends early and ensuring that the Cayman Islands stay ahead of the curve when it comes to giving our visitors the idyllic dream sun, sand and sea vacation," she said.

In addition to this newly developing segment of accommodation offerings in

Cayman, increased airlift had also played a significant role in the stayover tourism growth.

Calling airlift Cayman's "oxygen", Ms Harris said: "My team and I invest significant effort to maintain and grow strong aviation partnerships to ensure that airline capacity and flight frequency throughout the year are maintained and increased wherever possible. This ever-increasing ease in accessibility for our visitors, paired with the exceptional Caymankind service and experience unique to our country, enable us to grow the business and set visitation records."

Airlift from key visitor source markets showed significant expansion in 2019, the DOT said, whether through increased service or new airlines flying into the country. Airlift expansion included Cayman Airways returning to Denver in December 2019 through August 2020 with a twice weekly service, American Airlines putting on an additional seasonal service from Boston

and new service from JFK in 2020, Sunwing launching a service from Toronto, Canada for February 2020 and British Airways introducing an extra flight on Tuesdays, among others.

Ms Harris said she would continue to focus on source market diversification, new partnerships, and innovative destination marketing plans to continue to drive the record-breaking successes for the Cayman Islands in the new decade ahead.



# Caymanian Times

## Jan 20, 2020

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Wednesday

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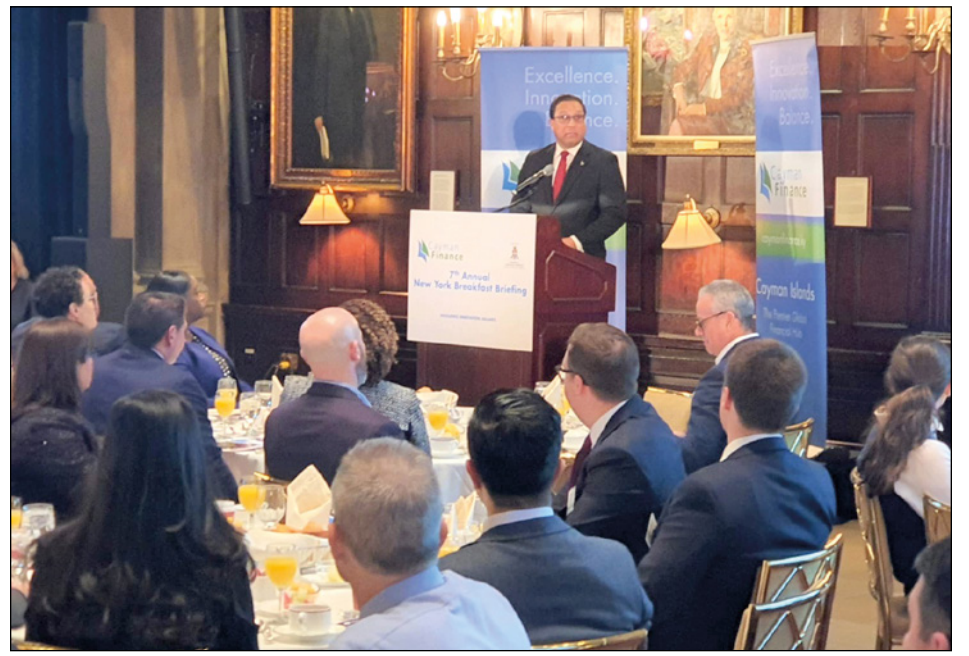
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# Delegation promotes Cayman's Financial Services

... Continued story from page A1

the role that Cayman plays in Global Finance. Ms Heather Smith, Head of the Investment and Securities Division at CIMA, provided an update on the work of the Authority over the past year. The Hon Tara Rivers, Minister for Financial Services and Home Affairs, delivered the main remarks and provided an update on the recent financial services legislation, including on 'economic substance'.

Later that afternoon The Premier, Minister Rivers, The Attorney General along with the Cayman delegation and members of Cayman Finance held meetings

with senior managers from the Bank of New York Mellon and with Citibank. Matters discussed included recent legislative changes on economic substance and other regulatory matters as well as an update on Cayman's economy. Both banks provide important correspondent banking services to the Cayman Islands and these meetings are a good opportunity for the bank's management to hear directly from Cayman's political leaders and to better understand the changing legislative framework. Both organisations noted that they continue to value their relationship with the Cayman Islands and with Cayman Islands banking institutions.

Later that evening the delegation attended the 2nd Cayman Finance New York Reinsurance Round Table. With more than 600 Captive insurance and Reinsurance companies and several large Reinsurance companies domiciled in the Cayman Islands, this is an important sector for Cayman's Financial Services Industry. The Governor spoke briefly about the Cayman Islands followed by Minister Rivers who provided remarks about the growing reinsurance sector in the Cayman Islands. A panel discussion on Caymans reinsurance market then followed led by Adrian Lynch, Managing Director of AON. Participants included David Johnson, Chairman and CEO

of Topsail Re; Mike Minnich, Executive Chairman of Midwest Holdings; Suzanne Sadlier, Deputy Head - Insurance Supervision CIMA; and Jaime Sahara, Founder and CEO of Rivington Partners.

The engagements during the day, at the Breakfast Briefing, with the correspondent banks, as well as with the New York Reinsurance market was very successful by those attending to hear what Cayman's leaders and financial services professionals had to say. The Premier and the Cayman delegation continue on Wednesday with planned meetings and networking opportunities, including with the prestigious Culinary Institute of America.

# Cayman Delegation Visits Culinary Institute of America

The Cayman Islands delegation took the opportunity whilst in New York on Wednesday to visit the Culinary Institute of America (CIA).

The CIA is the premier culinary college in the United States with currently more than 3,200 students representing every state and more than 40 countries enrolled in masters, bachelors, and associate degree programs.

Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin said "I was delighted to meet with Tim Ryan, President of the Institute along with the Provost, Chef Mark Erickson. We had the opportunity to talk about the prospects of possibly establishing a campus in the Cayman Islands. They have four campuses already established outside of New York including one in Singapore. We believe that there is an opportunity to compliment the role that the Cayman Islands is now playing as the culinary capital of the Caribbean by having one of the premier culinary institutes in the world with a campus in Cayman.

Mr. McLaughlin continued "Not only will this increase the image of Cayman and compliment our tourism product, but will also create opportunities for Caymanians to attend this facility, as well as the opportunity to attract students from all over the world, but in particular from the Caribbean and Latin America."

The Premier invited President Tim Ryan and his team to visit Cayman



and see for themselves the opportunities that exist and to explore collaboration between the Cayman Islands

and CIA. At the meeting Mr Ryan commented that he was aware of Cayman's leading place in the Caribbean as a preeminent tourist destination with many options for fine dining and quality food. He was also familiar with the Cayman Cookout event and the many world class chefs who took part in it, including graduates and friends of the Institute. He commented that he was looking forward to having follow up meetings in the

Cayman Islands and seeing what may be possible.

The Cayman delegation were also provided with a tour of the Campus. Also attending the tour and meeting were Dan Scott, Cayman Islands Education Council Chairman, Attorney General the Hon Samuel Bulgin, Eric Bush, Chief Officer of the Ministry of International Trade, Investment, Aviation and Maritime Affairs, and Roy Tatum, Head of the Office of the Premier.





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# Clifton Hunter presents Options Assembly

By Christopher Tobutt

Year Nine is a big year for the students at Clifton Hunter. That's the year when, in addition to the normal core curriculum subjects, they get to choose whether they want to pursue Design and Technology, Arts, or Sciences for the next years of school life. That's a big decision, but it is made a little easier by the fact that all the students have had some experience of all of these, already; so now they will just have to select one area on which to focus.

Teacher Villence Buchanan explained the purpose of the assembly: "We have Design and Technology, we have the Sciences, and the Performing Arts as options. Every year, Year Nine students have to choose specific options to take in addition to core subjects.

The school is reintroducing Design and Technology to the curriculum, and during the assembly there was a special presentation from some of the students who had been taking part in the flourishing world of fashion design, clothing and textiles. Last year's big InStyle fashion show, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, led by local fashion designer Norma Ebanks, helped incentivize the young designers and models to bring forth their talents, because there was a special section especially for young fashion designers there, and Ms Ebanks has been very busy helping all the students reach their potential by volunteering at the school.



► Fashion designers and models of Year 9, who are part of the Design and Technology group, pictured with Norma Ebanks, fashion mentor, and teacher, Chermeine Linafay-Baugh

Design and Technology teacher Chermeine Linafay-Baugh is proud of the progress her students have made "Today we are celebrating the year options

assembly for the Design and Technology Area and we are showcasing the talents of the clothing and textiles students," she said. "We are trying to revive the

subject back into the school by using the talents that were utilised during the InStyle Cayman Production, and some of the garments have been sold. "They are actually moving on from Year Nine to Year ten and we are going to have to bring them together to decide in a more proactive way what they will want to do for the next two years," she added.

One of the young fashion designers, Allenger McLaughlin Jr, aged 13 has been designing fashions for one year, "I started doing a class project, and it looked good so I made the design," He said. Alma Smith, also 13, is another of Clifton Hunter's young fashion designers: "I have been learning about the social side of it but also the practical side. I have been learning how to take measurements, sewing, and the right fabric to choose if I want to make a specific type of dress," she said.

Rochelle Ebanks is just 15 years old, but she is already an established fashion designer, and has been designing fashions ever since she was seven years old. "I went to a fashion show in St. Marten, I've done many fashion shows here and I am about to do a fashion show in Washington called Washington DC."

Shae Ebanks 14 wants to be a model wearing a beautiful red dress made by fellow student Tatiana. Winsome Campbell, 13 "Being a model helps you show your characteristics; show who you really are," she said, "and just by modelling, people can tell your personality and your style."



► Year Nine students' Options Assembly

## Fine Dine-In's new book offers deliver from 34 Restaurants!

For over 20 years, Cayman's favourite restaurant delivery service, Fine Dine-In, has just released their latest restaurant menu guide. In this newest edition, the Fine Dine-In magazine presents dinner menus from 33 restaurants and delivers dinner to your home, hotel, office or condominium.

Fine Dine-In has re-booted the publication of their magazine after a five year absence, using only their website at [www.finedinein.com](http://www.finedinein.com) to showcase the menus from the restaurants that they offer delivery from.

Owner Ken Moore commented, "We discovered that although our website offers a convenient way to both see all of the menus of the restaurants that we delivery from, plus the capability to place your order online, many people missed using our printed magazine because of its convenience."

"Our magazine acts like a directory of menus that allow customers to easily flip through the pages, quickly seeing all

of their options, and helping people decide on their choices without having to be online" Mr. Moore continued. "While Fine Dine-In has offered online ordering for over 18 years via our website, the majority of our orders continue to be placed over the phone by our clientele."

Along with the highly anticipated re-release of the Fine Dine-In magazine, they have announced the addition of a number of new restaurants to the service, now offering delivery from 33 of Cayman's best restaurants to your door.

Fine Dine-In offers dinner delivery from Al La Kebab, Agave, Alfresco, Boggy Sands Café, Bonfire Urban Grill, Brooklyn, Cayman Cabana, Catch, Chicken! Chicken!, Cimboco, Di Kitchen, Dragon Inn, Dukes, Fidel Murphy's, Gateway to India, Gateway to India, Good Mood Food, Guy Harvey's, Harbour Grille, The Kitchen, Lobster Pot, Lone Star, Mizu, Pani, Ragazzi, Salty's, Southern Spice, Thai Orchid (Thai & Sushi), Waterfront

and Wok N Roll. They also offer Wine, Liquor and Beer delivery from West Indies Wine Company along with soft drinks and bottled water.

With over 20 years of successful operation in Cayman, the staff and management at Fine Dine-In is very excited about working with such a broad range of restaurants in terms of price and cuisine choices. Mr. Moore shared that "Fine Dine-In continues to strive to offer the widest range of choices possible for its customers. Some nights, people just want comfort food, --- something simple, quick and inexpensive. Other nights they feel like the treating themselves and going all out - appetizer, entrée, dessert, and a bottle of wine."

Fine Dine-In offers delivery from restaurants to all of West Bay, SMB, Georgetown South Sound, Red Bay and Prospect and delivering from 5 pm - 10 pm seven days a week simply by calling 949-DINE or ordering online at [www.finedinein.com](http://www.finedinein.com).

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# Gas Prices



Location	Gas Station	Regular	Premium	Diesel
East End	Eastern Star Rubis (Woody's)	4.69		4.52
NorthSide	Jack's Esso (Jack's II)	4.6	4.96	4.44
Bodden Town	Lorna's Rubis	4.66	4.94	4.55
Bodden Town	Mostyns Esso	4.61	4.96	4.51
Savannah	Savannah Rubis	4.69	4.94	4.49
Red Bay	Barcam	4.62	4.94	4.54
Red Bay	On The Run ( Brown's Red Bay)	4.64	4.87	4.54
George Town	Peanuts	4.74	4.94	4.57
George Town	Jose's Escape	4.74	4.94	4.57
George Town	Refuel	4.44	4.64	4.19
George Town	Esso Tigermart Shedden Rd. (H&B 11)	4.61	4.91	4.54
George Town	Eastern Avenue Rubis	4.69	4.94	4.54
George Town	Walkers Rd. Rubis	4.65	4.96	4.49
George Town	On The Run (Mike's Walkers Rd.)	4.56	4.91	4.54
George Town	On The Run (Brown's Industrial Park)	4.61	4.91	4.55
George Town	On The Run (Mike's 7 Mile)	4.51	4.91	4.24
West Bay Rd.	H & B Esso (H&B 1 Seven Mile)	4.61	4.96	4.54
West Bay Rd.	7 Mile Rubis (AA 7 Mile)	4.69	4.89	4.25
West Bay	Hell Esso	4.65	5.03	4.44
West Bay	Esso 4 Way Stop (Four Winds)	4.65	4.89	4.31
George Town	Scotts Landing		4.99	4.58
Cayman Brac	West End		5.04	4.87
Cayman Brac	Tib Mart		5.04	
Little Cayman	Village Square		5.82	6.02

<b>Lowest Prices</b>	Grand Cayman	<b>4.44</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>4.19</b>
<b>Highest Prices</b>	Grand Cayman	<b>4.74</b>	<b>5.03</b>	<b>4.57</b>

## Fuel expense reduction



**Carpooling** – Try carpooling for 2 days per week. Many households in the Cayman Islands own multiple vehicles and therefore the levels of inconvenience will be minimized.



**Peak Traffic** – Avoids peak traffic times. The extra time you spend in traffic burns additional fuel. Leave home earlier or ask your employer about flexi time.



**Tire Pressure** – Check the air pressure in your tires. Low air pressure increases fuel consumption.

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► Frozen iguanas were found in Florida

## Frozen iguanas 'fell from the skies'

Cayman Islands has gone through a dip in temperatures recently but at least our iguanas have survived, unlike those in nearby Miami who are literally falling from trees, frozen with cold.

The National Weather Service in Miami felt the need to issue its forecast for iguanas on Twitter. "Don't be surprised if you see iguanas falling from the trees tonight," it tweeted on Tuesday evening.

Because iguanas are cold blooded, they slowed down, or become immobile when temperatures drop below 45F.

As a result the iguanas have seemed to fall from the sky, onto streets, cars, pools, or even people walking around.

Florida residents have even resorted to selling iguana meat on Facebook Marketplace after capturing the frozen reptiles.

Several ads selling skinned, butchered - and headless - iguanas, often nicknamed 'chicken of the trees',

started springing up online overnight in Miami, Doral and Homestead.

One post advertises freshly prepped garrobo, a name often used in Latin America for iguana, for a steal at \$1. The same seller also offers the skin-on variety for chefs who want a more hands-on approach with their food.

Others, however, were selling frozen iguana meat several days before the cold weather kicked in, suggesting this is far from a seasonal specialty for some.

Bemused residents took to social media to poke fun at the craze. "You know it's cold when Facebook Marketplace got garrobo meat for sale #BecauseMiami #ChickenOfTheTrees," one person tweeted.

The supply of the unusual meal choice comes just hours after states across the Southern and Eastern United States were told to brace themselves for freez-

ing temperatures with icy winds, frost, snow and iguanas falling from trees.

"This isn't something we usually forecast, but don't be surprised if you see iguanas falling from the trees tonight as lows drop into the 30s and 40s. Brrrr!" NWS Miami tweeted.

The low temperatures stun the invasive reptiles, but the iguanas won't necessarily die. That means many will wake up as temperatures rise.

Female iguanas can lay nearly 80 eggs a year, and South Florida's warm climate is perfect for the prehistoric-looking animals. Iguanas are native to Central America, tropical parts of South America and some Caribbean islands.

Iguanas can be kept as pets in Florida but are not protected by any law except anti-cruelty to animals. They've been in South Florida since the 1960s, but their numbers have increased dramatically in recent years. 🌐

## CAYMAN ISLANDS CLOSELY MONITORING CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK IN CHINA

... Continued story from page A1

Seventeen people have died in China and over 500 hundred have so far been reported to have caught the deadly respiratory virus which has flu-like symptoms.

According to Cayman Islands Medical Officer for Health, Dr Samuel Williams Rodriguez: "While there have been no local reports of the coronavirus in the Cayman Islands, the public health department is closely monitoring the situation.

"At the advice of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) we continue to strengthen our surveillance efforts to detect patients with acute respiratory disease and to ensure all health care professionals are up to date with guidance on infection and prevention control, and standard recommendations to prevent infection spread of the disease", he stated.

Dr Rodriguez has also advised that: "Travellers returning from countries where there have been reported cases, and who develop breathing difficulties that are unexplained by any other illness or virus, should contact a doctor as soon as possible and state their travel history so that a correct diagnosis can be made."

At the moment, there is no vaccine available and treatment is supportive care based on the patient's symptoms.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has confirmed that the virus which has been traced to the city of Wuhan, China, has to date spread rapidly across Asia, with cases reported in Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

The Pan American Health Organization has not advised special screening for the coronavirus at points of entry nor recommended any travel or trade restrictions in the Caribbean/Latin America region.

However, that advice could be changed.



The WHO was meeting this week to determine is the current situation warranted a global pandemic alert.

WHO physicians said they've found evidence of human-to-human transmission. The virus was first noted for his transmission from among animals, then from animal to humans.

The coronavirus is being compared to the SARS outbreak of 2003.

However, while SARS took almost two months to spread to around 400 people, the rapid spread of this strain of the coronavirus to over 500 in less than a month is a cause for concern by global health experts.

Meanwhile, in the United Kingdom, Health Secretary Matt Hancock has said there was an increased likelihood of the virus occurring in the country.

However, he said while there are presently no known cases, the National Health Service (NHS) was "well prepared" to handle an outbreak.

Flights from China arriving in the UK are being monitored as a precaution.

Similar measures have been put in place in the US.

In Wuhan, China where the outbreak started, the city has been placed under lockdown with the transportation network closed. 🌐



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## CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

## St Kitts farmers go ape over monkeys

The St Kitts and Nevis Department of Agriculture has intensified its pest control efforts to address its growing monkey problem. Farmers have reported hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses after their crops were destroyed by Green Vervet monkeys.

Director of Agriculture Melvin James announced plans to form a Monkey Task Force to implement measures to address the damage being done by the cheeky pests.

He said: "In terms of farming, they're a nuisance, we've noticed that they eat almost everything, cabbage, peppers, squash, pumpkin and watermelon. They even uproot cassava and sweet potatoes. On average we lose 100 metric tons of food every year. Food that would have otherwise been marketed. That has cost us quite a bit."

It is hoped that the task force will serve to reduce the number of pests in the farming district.



► Trinidad's Red House has taken 20 years to restore

He added that despite the damage they cause, the monkeys in St Kitts and Nevis shouldn't be presented as all negative. He said: "They are an important part of the tourism product; a lot of people like to see them and pet them, and we also do very significant bio-medical research which makes the rounds worldwide."

Steps to address the monkey problem are all part of a multi-million-dollar pest control plan which is being funded by the government. 🌐

## Trinidad restores its heritage sites

Trinidad and Tobago ongoing restoration of its heritage sites has been a long and expensive process, but the recent revival of these national buildings has been met with both praise and criticism.

The rehabilitation of the Red House (the traditional seat of the country's parliament), for example, and Mille Fleurs, which is one in the row of Magnificent Seven buildings bordering Port of Spain's Queen's Park Savannah, have taken years to complete. The works to the Red House have the longest time frame — 20 years in the making.

The extended time frame is due, in part, to the massive scope of the projects, and the fact that some sites have been neglected to the brink of demolition. The Red House was reportedly in such a poor state that restoration was the only alternative.

Many of the projects remained in the planning stages under various political administrations. It is only within the last five years that the necessary fund-



► Green Velvet monkeys destroy crops

ing was committed and work was able to begin.

Some of the sites that have benefitted from this restoration thrust include Killarney (also known as Stollmeyer's Castle), Whitehall (also called Rosenweg) and the President's House.

At a Ministry of Finance function in October 2019, Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley told the audience that not only did the buildings need to be saved because of their relevance to the country's history, but that the construction work that was being carried out created employment as well. 🌐

## Jamaica rebrands itself as a 'heartbeat'

The Jamaica Tourist Board has unveiled its latest brand campaign, 'Jamaica, Heartbeat of the World'.

The campaign is designed to recognise Jamaica's outsized influence globally. The campaign extends beyond tourism and encompasses all elements of Jamaica's rich and vibrant culture including music, cuisine, sports, adventure, nature, and wellness.

"We are excited to launch 'Heartbeat of the World,' which reinforces our position as a global leader among travel destinations and establishes Jamaica as the single destination every traveller must experience," said Donovan White, Jamaica director of tourism.

"On the map, Jamaica may seem like a small dot in the Caribbean Sea. But her influence on the world culture is the size of a continent.



► Jamaican culture is a global phenomenon

"We are a cultural giant and we continue to have an indelible impact on the world's food, music, sport, and literature while offering larger-than-life bucket list experiences with extraordinary, talented people."

Jamaica's visibility on the international stage will be heightened this year as the new James Bond movie, 'No Time to Die', which was filmed in Jamaica, is set to be released April 8. 🌐

## Guyana's first oil batch sets sail

Guyana has officially shipped its very first batch of crude oil, a major oil-first for the country.

The first batch of oil — a million barrels of Liza sweet crude oil — is currently on a Suezmax tanker Yannis P headed for the United States. The Liza field is co-owned by Hess Corp, China's CNOOC, and operator ExxonMobil who made 15 offshore finds in Guyana.

The project has uncovered more than six billion barrels of recoverable oil and gas, although a more recent find earlier this month will increase that figure. It is not yet known which of ExxonMobil's US refineries the new crude will end up in.

All in all, ExxonMobil and its partners are expecting to produce at least 750,000 barrels per day within five years—a figure that if achieved would catapult Guyana into a serious global



► Guyana has shipped its first oil tanker

oil player and significantly raise living standards.

Exxon's quick success in Guyana has triggered an exploration campaign in neighbouring Suriname, with a Total/Apache partnership striking oil right across the border just last week. The development brings hope to Suriname that it, too, could one day become an oil powerhouse. 🌐

## Grenada hotelier wins top prize

Grenada's Calabash Luxury Boutique Hotel's owner has been named Caribbean Hotelier of the Year by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association.

Englishman Leo Garbutt was awarded in a ceremony during the CHTA's Caribbean Travel Marketplace event in Nassau, The Bahamas last week.

"We all know that 20/20 vision is perfect and at this moment this is a perfect moment in my life," Garbutt said. He first came across the Calabash by a twist of fate in 1985. His flight departing Grenada back to the UK was delayed and he ended up staying at the nearby Calabash.

As soon as he arrived at the hotel, he knew it was a very special place and



► Grenada's Calabash Luxury Boutique Hotel is world renowned

somewhere he could never forget. "Garbutt is an adept, self-taught entrepreneur, whose love of his hotel, his adopted island and the Caribbean drove him to master the intricacies of the industry in our region," said CHTA CEO and Director General Frank Comito.

The 30-suite hotel has long been one of the leading hotels in Grenada. 🌐

## Barbados former minister guilty of fraud

Former Barbados government minister Donville Inniss was found guilty of three criminal counts when he appeared in a federal district court in New York last week.

The unanimous verdict was handed down by a 12-member jury after just under two hours of deliberation. Inniss is guilty of two counts of money laundering and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering.

The court found that the former legislator took bribes from insurance giant ICBL in 2015 and 2016 while he was Minister of Industry, International Business, Commerce and Small Business Development.

ICBL then paid him \$US36,000 to use his authority to ensure that the firm's million-dollar contract with the state-



► Donville Inniss received \$36,000

owned Barbados Industrial Development Corporation was renewed.

The court was told that Inniss then conspired to hide the payment by having the money sent to a New York dental company, then deposited into his bank account through a series of transfers. He is to remain on bail pending sentencing next month. 🌐

## Bermuda is relaxed about spa month

Bermuda Spa Month is set for the entire month of February again this year following its successful launch last year.

This year will include treatments at many of Bermuda's top hotels and spas — with some treatments starting at \$99 — a 50 percent discount off regular prices.

"Bermuda is already a supremely romantic winter destination for couples in need of an escape," a Bermuda Tourism Authority spokesman said. "And thanks to Bermuda Spa Month, which takes place every February, the romance is complemented perfectly by wellness."



► Bermuda Spa Month helps tourism

The themed month is part of a wider push by the destination to increase business in the colder winter months; Bermuda's peak season is typically during the summer. 🌐

## Dominica racks up its carnival

Dominica's Ministry of Tourism is planning to make its carnival more attractive to visitors.

In 2019, visitor arrivals for the week leading up to carnival Monday and Tuesday were 5,196 which was a 129 percent increase from 2018 arrivals.

And this year, the Minister for Tourism, Denise Charles, said it is the government's intention to attract more visitors to the 'Nature Island' while increasing participation.

The government is also looking to strengthen the work of the Discover Dominica Association in its 'Festival Tourism Program' and ensure that



► Dominica's carnival will get bigger

there is a year-round festival program.

These events will include the Real Mas, Jazz and Creole, dive fest, crab fest and the World Creole Music Festival. 🌐

CROSSWORD

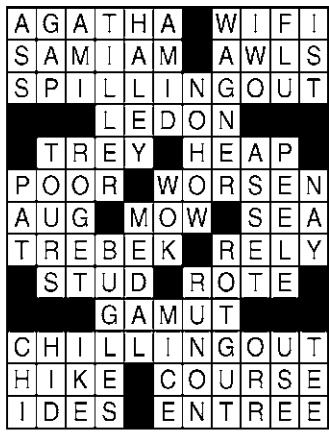
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

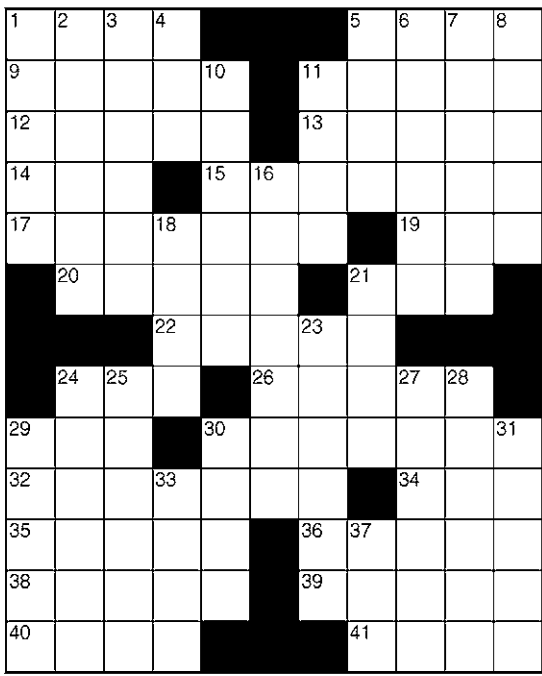
- 39 Was partial
- 1 Stadium sound
- 5 Supermarket aid
- 9 Stage direction
- 11 Stationery buy
- 12 "Step aside, I'll do it"
- 13 Friendliness
- 14 Here, to Henri
- 15 Floor covers
- 17 They make cameos
- 19 Guest's bed
- 20 Peruses
- 21 Capitol Bldg. figure
- 22 Comb parts
- 24 Possesses
- 26 Grammatical objects
- 29 Take in
- 30 Blocs
- 32 Wrist bones
- 34 Kilmer of "The Doors"
- 35 Island ring
- 36 Make a speech
- 38 Defy authority

DOWN

- 1 Museum piece
- 2 Like some garages
- 3 Duds
- 4 "Man on the Moon" band
- 5 Scout's base
- 6 For each
- 7 Star of the 1984 Olympics
- 8 Secret meeting
- 10 Fall back
- 11 Golf goals
- 16 Weapons store
- 18 Brewery sights
- 21 Close
- 23 Some sculptures
- 24 Fastball, in slang
- 25 Oxygen-thriving organism
- 27 Utah neighbor
- 28 Christian of "Mr. Robot"
- 29 Muffler's kin
- 30 Ref's decision
- 31 Snow gliders
- 33 En-treated
- 37 Vault part



Yesterday's answer



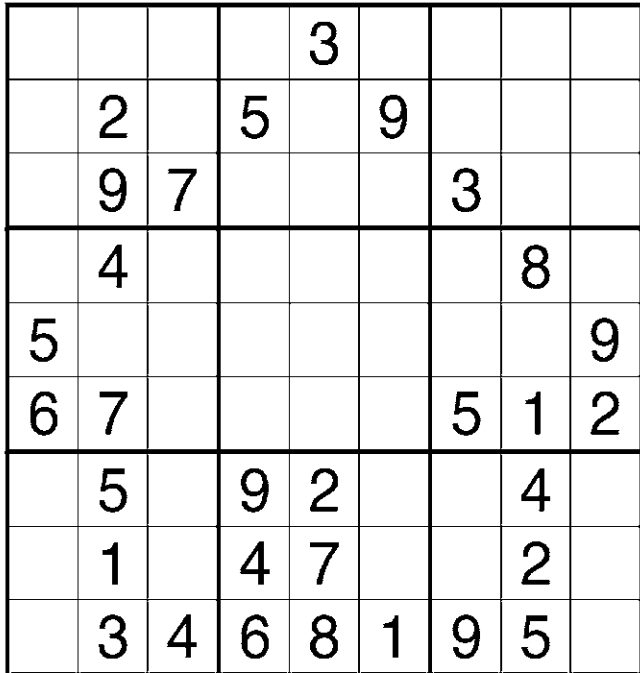
12-19

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

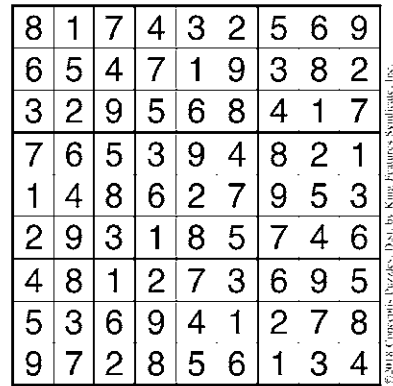
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

10/31

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★

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Word Search

- Bag
- Ball
- Birdie
- Bogey
- Bunker
- Caddy
- Cart
- Club
- Course
- Divot
- Drive
- Eagle
- Fairway
- Flag
- Grass
- Green
- Handicap
- Hazard
- Hole
- Iron
- Niblick
- Putter
- Range
- Rough
- Rules
- Score
- Slice
- Swing
- Whiff
- Wood

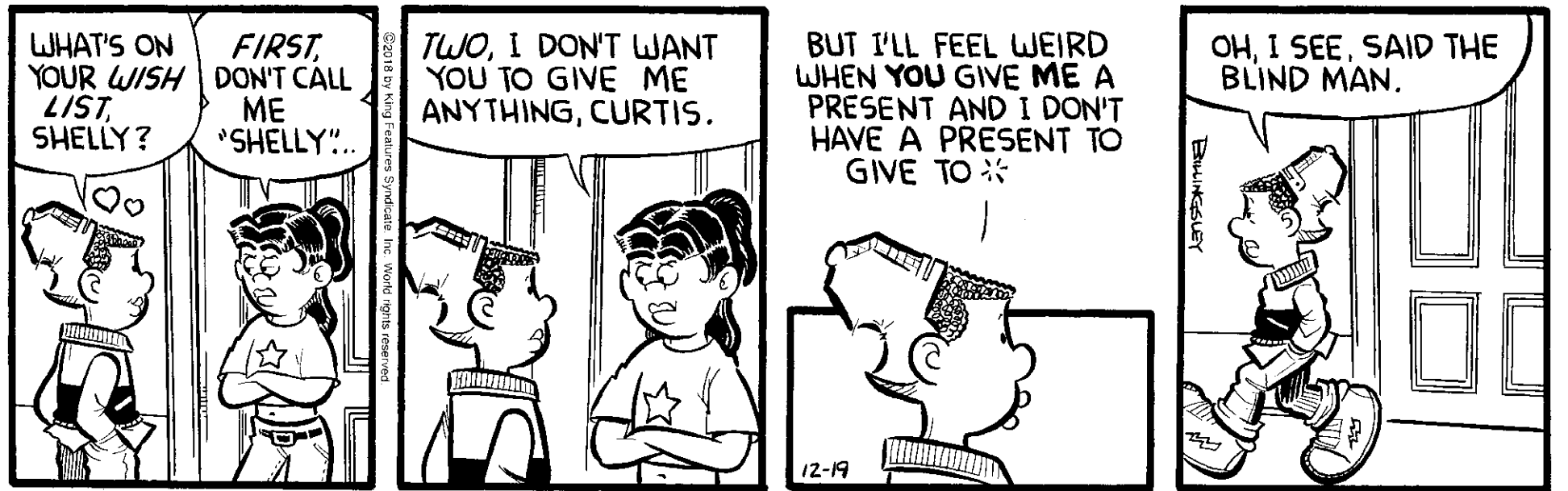


Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions – forward, back, up, down and diagonally.



CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



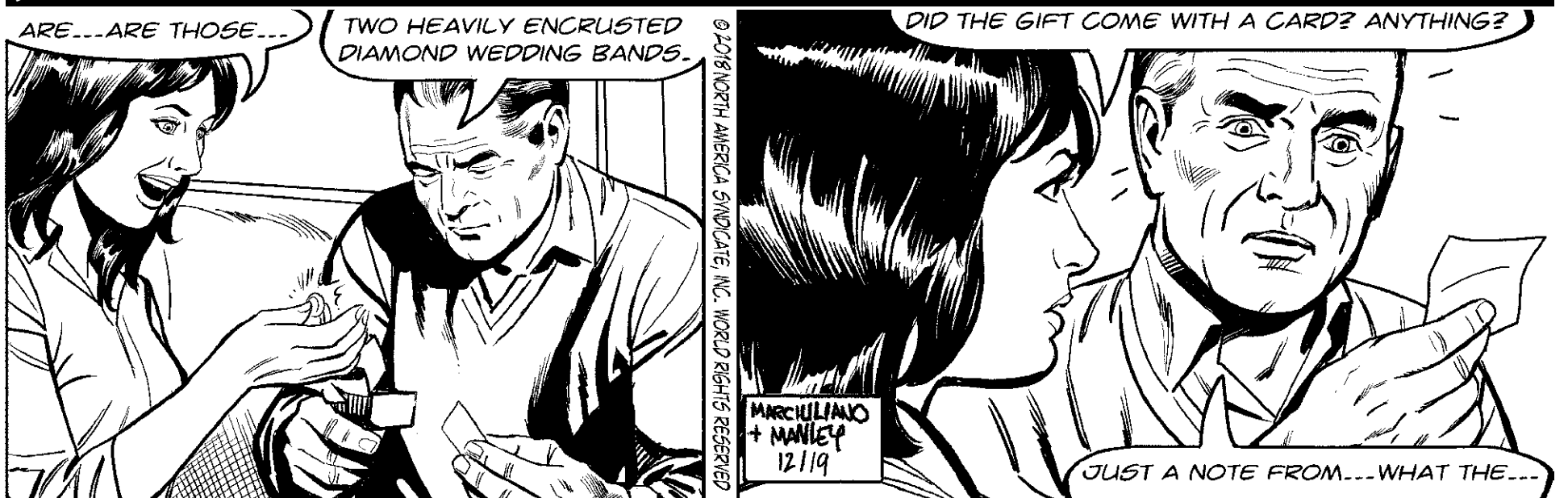
THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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