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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

● EDITORIAL — A2



Do your part to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus

● BUSINESS — A4



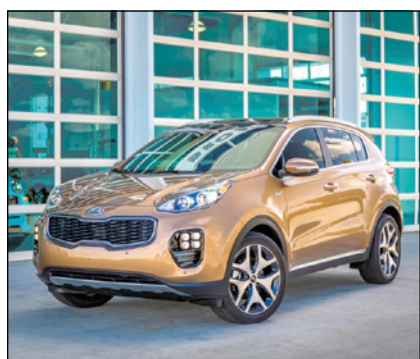
KPMG Ignite Your Future Program launches for local students

● LOCAL NEWS — A5



Annual Cayman Economic Outlook announced

● LAW ENFORCEMENT — A9



Stolen KIA Sportage from Spott's Beach

● INTERNATIONAL SPORTS — B2



Darren Bravo is back in the West Indies fold

A Robust Response from Home Affairs



A week since the 7.7 magnitude earthquake shook the Cayman Islands, stories of uniformed services going above and beyond the call of duty continue to come to light.

While Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HMCI) was responsible for

coordinating the Islands' effort, the Department of Public Safety Communication (DPSC), Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) and Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) each tackled this unprecedented event quickly and calmly.

As the department responsible for 9-1-1, DPSC's primary role is to receive and disseminate emergency and non-emergency calls for service and messages to appropriate first response agencies.

... Continued story on page A3

Grand Cayman welcomes Sunwing

Canada-based Sunwing Airlines operated its first seasonal direct flight between Toronto and Grand Cayman, on 2 February 2020.

Community members and government officials gathered for a water

cannon celebration of the arrival of Sunwing's 737 from Toronto (YYZ) at the Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM).

... Continued story on page A6



► Sunwing Captain and flight crew; Wayne DaCosta, CIAA, Chief Airport Operations Officer; David Wight, MLA, Councillor, Ministry of Tourism, Transport and Sports; Jane Scaletta, CIDOT, Deputy Director, International Marketing & Promotions; Raymond Mathias, CIDOT, Business Development Manager, Canada

A Trumpian State of the Union



By Michael Jarvis, UK Correspondent

The extended hand that wasn't shaken and the literal shredding of the speech after it was delivered; two occurrences which book-ended and possibly overshadowed a night that was more about drama and visualisation than it might have been about substance.

... Continued story on page A4

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EDITORIAL

Do your part to prevent the spread

Having declared the spread of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) a world health emergency, the World Health Organisation has issued some basic steps that everyone should be following to ensure they stay healthy. Thankfully there have been no reported cases of the virus in the Cayman Islands, but this is a fluid situation and, with high volumes of travel to and from Cayman both by air and by sea, we should not be complacent. Following basic hygiene rules is the smart way to prevent any type of cold or flu virus from spreading. This means frequently washing your hands with soap, especially before, during and after preparing food. Wash your hands before you eat and always wash your hands after going to the toilet. Wash your hands when they look dirty and after handling animal waste. Prevent sneezes or coughs from spreading germs by using a tissue or the crook of your elbow. Try not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth, because in doing so you can touch contaminated surfaces with your fingers and then transfer any infection you may pick up directly to yourself. If you have a cough, fever or difficulty breathing, let your health-care provider know straight away and avoid close contact with other people. If you have not travelled to China recently, or you have not been in contact with someone who has, chances are you have a regular cold or flu as we are currently in flu season right now.






Government is taking this world health emergency very seriously, with a separate flu clinic planned at the

Health Services Authority, travel history screening of people arriving into Cayman by air and signage put up at the airport to tell people what to do and where to go if they feel as if they have a flu infection. Recent stories have circulated with regard to at least ten (at the time of writing) cruise ship passengers testing positive for the 2019-nCoV in Japan. Given the thousands of cruise ship visitors who alight in Cayman each month, the authorities here are taking proactive steps to ensure that the Cayman public is protected, should a cruise visitor here be infected. At a press conference on Monday, Customs and Border Control Deputy Director Gary Wong said that it was mandated that masters of vessels had to report to the authorities anyone they see who maybe sick or coming from a country that may have the 2019-nCoV. A health declaration form must be completed before a vessel arrives, giving authorities information on people they suspect maybe sick, he confirmed.

It's up to all of us to try and stay healthy, and keep those around us healthy. 🌐

Coronavirus prevention

-  **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.**
-  **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.**
-  **Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.**
-  **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
-  **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.**
-  **Stay home when you are sick.**

COMMUNITY NOTICE



► (L-R) SNAP Trainer Alyssa Keel (fourth from left) with Family Resource Centre Programme Facilitators and certified SNAP trainers: Renee Ebanks, Julianne Thompson, Anne-Marie Diaz, SNAP Trainer Alyssa Keel, Miles Ruby, FRC Programme Coordinator Charmaine Bush-Miller, Brenda Dawkins and Robert Lynch (Photo by Elphina Jones, G/S)

Family Resource Centre Staff Earn Designation to Train Others

Family Resource Centre (FRC) staff-ers have successfully completed the Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) Train the Trainers programme.

Programme Facilitators Renee Ebanks, Julianne Thompson, Anne-Marie Diaz, Miles Ruby, Brenda Dawkins joined FRC Programme Coordinator Charmaine Bush-Miller and volunteer Robert Lynch in the training, and are now designated SNAP trainers for the evidence-based intervention programme, which teaches children with behavioural problems and their parents how to make better "choices in the moment."

Their training was undertaken by SNAP senior trainer Alyssa Keel from the Canadian-based organisation, Child Development Institute last month. SNAP runs gender-sensitive programmes for boys and girls ages 6-11, who are engaging in aggressive, anti-social behaviour and/or have come into contact with authority figures at school, at home or in the community. Experienced and highly-trained staff work with each family to assess challenges and problems and develop an action plan.

Children and families may participate in several components of the SNAP programme, to help prevent and reduce the chances of future antisocial behaviour and conflict with others. These include clinical gender-specific weekly groups, SNAP parenting groups, individual child counseling and mentoring, school advocacy and

continued care. Families have access to learn how to use SNAP in different situations through engaging activities, discussions, role-playing and interactive games. A variety of topics, including dealing with angry thoughts and feelings, self-control, problem-solving and bullying are addressed.

"We are delighted to have several more of our staff trained in SNAP to teach the coping strategies used in this internationally-recognised system," said FRC's Programme Coordinator Charmaine Miller.

"Having more of us trained at a trainer level on SNAP will allow us to train more of our new staff and train members of youth-based organisations on island interested in delivering SNAP."

Department of Counselling Services Director Judith Seymour said: "SNAP currently operates in many countries worldwide and the FRC has successfully delivered the programme for two and half years. We have seen first-hand the benefits of SNAP with families and children that have participated in our programme offerings, as they develop better coping mechanisms and healthier relationships after successfully completing the programme."

The FRC is now based at 87 Mary Street, 2nd Floor, Apollo House West, George Town. Regular office hours are Monday to Friday - 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome: Mondays and Fridays - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Wednesdays - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 🌐




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Home Affairs' Robust Response

... Continued story from page A1

Call taking and dispatching services continued uninterrupted during the afternoon of Tuesday, 28 January 2020 as no damage was evident to the 9-1-1 centre.

In the hour that followed the initial earthquake, DPSC saw a 200% increase in the number of calls received compared to normal operations. Public reports of island wide sink holes and other roadway damage were captured through DPSC. The necessary information was then shared with partners in CIFS, HMCI, RCIPS and HSA in accordance with its internal major incident procedures.

CIFS responded to 20 emergency incident notifications from 9-1-1 in the hours following Tuesday's earthquake. These included small fires, the reported smell of gas and alarms operating.

Working closely with colleagues from RCIPS, CIFS operational crews from Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman provided reassurance, guidance and advice to residents, businesses and visitors across the three islands.

Operational crews maintained full coverage for 9-1-1 domestic incidents. In addition, they provided essential fire and rescue operational cover at Owen Roberts, Charles Kirkconnell and Edward Bodden Airports, which began operating as normal following a brief interruption. No structural damage was evident to CIFS's fire stations.

HMCIPS colleagues also promptly resumed normal residential routines. At Fairbanks, nine staff including the Di-

rector and Deputy Director were on site at the time of the earthquake, the safety of all 14 prisoners and staff on site was ascertained quickly and in a calm and measured manner. Once the initial tremor had passed prisoners were advised to get under the protective cover of the metal frame beds.

Given the confirmed structural integrity of the HMP Fairbanks buildings, it was believed the best decision to ensure safety of all prisoners and staff was not to evacuate.

A radio check was immediately undertaken to assess individuals' safety across all the HMCIPS facilities.

The Director of Prisons, Mr. Steven Barrett swiftly organised a comprehensive building structural check of all facilities. The full assessment report showing no significant damage was completed the same day.

Since Tuesday's earthquake, a team of psychologists and counsellors have engaged with both prisoners and staff at Fairbanks, with the same now being organised for Northward in the coming days.

As is the case with the aftermath of any unprecedented event, HMCIPS have commissioned an internal review of contingency plans as part of a lessons

learned exercise which will include arrangements to support staff and prisoner emotional welfare.

In addition, senior leaders from HMCI, CIFS and DPSC participated in a debriefing exercise on Friday, 31 January 2020 with those from other key critical first response agencies, to review the initial response to the incident, establish what went well and identify lessons learned.

Further debriefings will be conducted by HMCI with the Emergency Support Teams (ESTs) in the coming weeks to ensure that all opportunities to improve the national hazard response capability are identified and acted upon.

Runnin' in di Republic ... is a West Bay ting



Saturday, March 7, 2020
Starts and ends at Ristorante Pappagallo, Conch Point Road, West Bay



CUC WEST BAY SUNRISE 5K

CUC is taking to the streets again in West Bay on **Saturday, March 7th, 2020** for a fun run and walk as we raise money for the Sunrise Adult Training Centre and the Cayman Islands Athletic Association (CIAA). Everyone is welcome to join us.

- Course:** Starts and ends at Ristorante Pappagallo, Conch Point Road, West Bay
- Start Time:** 6:00 a.m. (Walkers) and 6:30 a.m. (Runners). Check-in time is 5:15 a.m. (to receive numbers (all participants) and race chips (for runners)
- Fee:** **CI\$15** Adults and **CI\$10** Youth (Under 17)
- Registration:**
 - 1) Register online at www.caymanactive.com
 - 2) Download the PDF form from CUC's website at www.cuc-cayman.com (click on "Events" under the "About Us" tab on the Home Page). Complete, scan and e-mail the form to communications@cuc.ky
 - 3) Forms can also be dropped-off and payments made by cash or cheque (payable to CUC) at CUC's Administration Building on North Sound Road on Tuesday, March 3rd, Wednesday, March 4th and Thursday, March 5th between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Participants who register online can also collect their t-shirts from CUC on those three days in March. *There will be no registration on the day of the event*
- Amenities:** First 250 participants will receive a t-shirt (sizes are not guaranteed) and all participants will receive a participation medal, bag, cap and water bottle following the event. Light refreshments will be provided at the end of the event. Trophies for the fastest and second fastest adults and youth (Under 17).
- Contacts:** CUC's Pat Bynoe-Clarke (914-1107), Patrick Barnes (914-1136) and Neil Murray (914-1110) or communications@cuc.ky



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A Trumpian State of the Union

... Continued story from page A1

It was one of the most highly anticipated event of the American 2020 political calendar barring the election of the president, this year being a presidential election year.

That outcome, to all intents and purposes, is a foregone conclusion unless the most unexpected happens; Michael Bloomberg winning the Democratic Party's nomination and either he or Pete Buttigieg winning the election (take your bets!).

It's almost patently obvious that President Donald Trump is on his way to a second term, the taint of an impeachment hearing notwithstanding. And that's where the issue of impeachment of Mr Trump ends. By Wednesday, the day after the night of his third State Of The Union(SOTU) address, the impeachment hearings into President Donald J, Trump, only the third US president to have been impeached, would have ended.

It's been stalled more by political factionalism that due process of law and the constitution. But, as has been pointed out, acquittal does not necessarily mean exoneration. Now, let's turn what the president said - and did - and what happened during his 2020 SOTU.

It happened in what mimicked a made-for-reality-television event, and showman that he is, President Trump played it to the hilt. His speech was pure (despite the doubts over the purity of its content) barnstorming, political re-election campaigning.

It was theatre, bordering on doing injustice to the traditional practiced formality, pomp and ceremony of the occasion.

In some instances kit was cringe-worthy for the unashamed self-glorification - even sneering - by the president, to the jaw-dropping disbelief of the extent of his claimed accomplishments.

The stage-managed manipulation for personal political gain was a master class of political opportunism.

Some might argue that while it might have come across as blatant political campaigning, most of the pronouncements on the current state of US economy, were indeed factual.

But is a matter of nuance even within those 'facts'.

The US economy is indeed performing well and unemployment is at historic low levels.

What's debatable, however, is whether President Trump can justifiably take full credit for what it.

Is it that the US economy is performing well because of President Trump - "thriving" as he stated - or it performing relatively well in spite of him.

Relative is the operative word in this context.

The fact-checkers were hard at work during the SOTU bringing context to the president's rather bombastic claims.

One of the startling facts amidst the hype is America's sky-rocketing and unsustainable national debt, a burden on future generations.

Another fact lurking among the beguiling figures of positive economic performance relates to the recent spate of tax cuts.

It's been shown that they have not had the desired impact where intended...or at least promoted; that's in the pockets of the middle and working classes.

The cuts have been shown to be are mainly benefiting the already rich...of which the Trump dynasty are lifetime club members.

In a 78-minute presentation, that could have been the blueprint for a US Broadway or UK West End theatrical production, embellished claims were liberally sprinkled with first-person ownership of their success.

America is the best it's ever been according to President Trump and it's all because of him. It was pure, unbridled



political theatre which could not keep Republicans in their seats, contrasted by the perception of crass politicking that kept stony-faced Democrats glued to their seats.

It was a study in political representation as the divide in the Congressional response to the SOTU reflected what was happening across the country.

In equal measure in opposing camps, the President's speech was celebrated and excoriated.

It was a speech laced with contradictions; from US outreach as a global partner and leader, contrasted by policies and pronouncements of a more inward-looking America.

Mr Trump proclaimed the America of friendship under his leadership, but apparently only his terms, only when he is 'winning'.

He interrupted his speech (stage-managed) to award the Presidential Medal Of Freedom to a controversial, right-wing, Trump-supporting talk show host known for his history of race-baiting commentaries.

But, while preaching of an America lead by him embracing cultural diversity, one of the last surviving members of the heroic African-American WW2 fighter squadron known as the Tuskegee Air-

men, only got an honourable mention, whereas Rush Limbaugh was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Context matters and the irony was not lost.

This State of the Union address might have reflected the state of America under Trump where the headlines numbers hide the real back-story and mask the underlying problems.

It amounts to preaching unity and getting a buy-in to it (who will object to unity?), but where the reality is different... and there's hardly an alternative to the preacher.

It's all in the messaging and in terms of a Machiavellian political re-election strategy, this SOTU wrongly ticks all of its right boxes.

Regarding the extended hand that wasn't shaken and the shredding of the speech after it was delivered, that was another episode of the longstanding acrimonious showdown between President Trump and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

He refused to shake her extended hand upon entering the chamber.

She tore up his speech at the end, calling it "a manifesto of mistruths."

The 2020 US presidential election campaign just got shifted into higher gear. 🌐

The KPMG Ignite Your Future Program launches for local students

On International Education Day, Friday, January 24, 2020, KPMG launched a new initiative aimed at local students; The KPMG Ignite Your Future Program.

The program has been designed to support local students who are interested in a future career in account-

ing, finance, actuarial science or accounting information systems. Within The KPMG Ignite Your Future Program, there are local scholarship opportunities, overseas scholarship opportunities, the Novelette A. Ebanks International Scholarship, as well as a range of

internship opportunities at the firm, for both undergraduates and postgraduates.

"As Cayman is a premier global financial hub, there's no better place to start a career in finance and financial related industries than at a Cayman based firm, especially which has numerous international opportunities in the future," said Sheenah Hislop, Partner and Head of Local Recruitment at KPMG.

"We are excited to launch The KPMG Ignite Your Future Program. We know from the talent of our previous scholarship students that there is a wealth of brilliance on our small island. We are looking forward to supporting Cayman's young people as they pursue great careers."

More information, including how to apply for a scholarship or internship can be found at www.kpmg.ky/en/home/careers/graduates, or, reach out to Cindy Reid at cindyreid@kpmg.ky. 🌐

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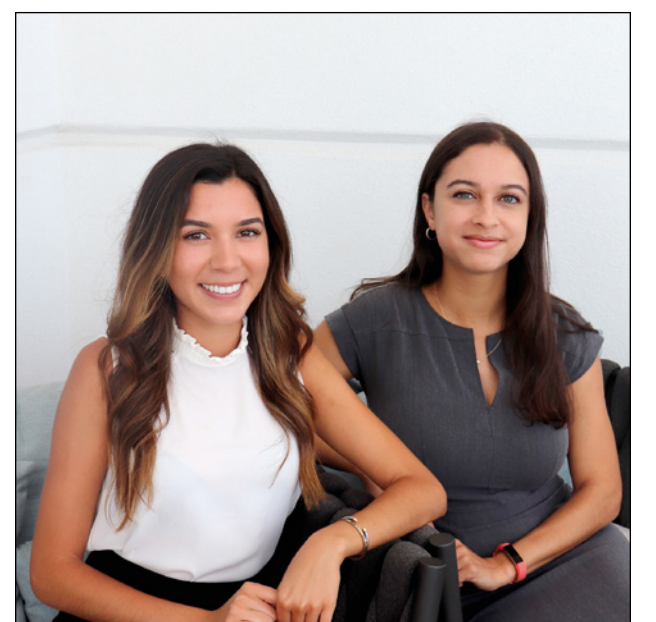
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Women in Power

Promotions at CUC

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) recently promoted three employees - Mechon Evangelista-Ebanks, Latoya Bush and Namitha Abraham.

Mechon was promoted to Supervisor Transmission & Distribution (T&D) Planning in the T&D Operations Department. Formerly with the Company's Internal Audit & Risk Management Department, Mechon is now responsible for managing the T&D Operations department's key processes and day-to-day operations such as vegetation management and make-ready (fibre optics) as well as implementing operational and financial controls. She joined the Company in 2012 as a Senior Control Assurance Specialist.

Latoya was promoted to Revenue & Payables Officer in the Financial Services Department and is responsible for assisting with maintaining inventory, accounts payable and accounts

receivable relating to the Company's financial operations. She joined the Financial Services Department in 2017 as an Accounts Payable Clerk.

Namitha was promoted to Electrical Engineer in the Engineering & Business Development Department. In her new role, Namitha provides general electrical engineering support for the Company's capital work projects and T&D and Production studies. In addition, she supports the day-to-day operation of the power system by assisting with planning and executing scheduled outages and recovery processes during unscheduled outages. She began her career at CUC in 2017 as an Engineer in Training.

CUC's management and staff congratulate Mechon, Latoya and Namitha on their promotions and wish them continued success in their new roles.



The Environmental Management System at the North Sound Road Power Plant is registered to ISO 14001



RF Conference To Assess the Local Impact of Global Conflict

The 17th Annual Cayman Economic Outlook announced

RF Group is pleased to announce that the RF Cayman Economic Outlook "RF CEO" Conference will be held on Friday, March 6th, 2020 at the Kimpton Seafire Resort & Spa, Grand Cayman.

The annual one-day event will tackle the theme "Colliding Global Interests: Assessing the Impact". According to RF Group President, Michael Anderson, the 2020 theme recognizes the conflicts that have arisen over the last decade between entrenched interests of established economies or 'super-powers' and those that challenge the status quo. The conference will also address the tensions created by the emergence of new technologies and their impact on both employment and the concentration of wealth. The catastrophic damage to small island states resulting from global warming, perhaps the most relevant topic locally, will also be discussed. In this case, large economies fail to recognize the impact and as such do not assist in covering the costs of the devastation.

"While we typically see these global issues as impacting larger countries and economies, whether its through rising oil costs, increased tariffs on imported goods from China, restrictions on goods purchased from various suppliers or coping with earthquakes and increasingly powerful storms, these colliding global interests actually have a direct impact on our daily lives in Cayman," Mr. Anderson said. "This year's conference seeks to identify both the key risks and opportunities arising out of these global conflicts, making us better able to manage their impact and potentially benefit from their consequences".

The conference's keynote speaker is **Ambassador Nicholas Burns**, a distinguished career diplomat who served



► (L-R) Back row: Marlon Bispeth, PwC; Diana Creciu, PwC; Alistair Walters, Campbells; Pamela Small, Logic; Robby Polk, Yello; Brett Hill, Fidelity (Cayman) Limited. Front row: Desmond Kinch, Overseas Asset Management; Malynda Gibson-Nixon, RBC; Michael Anderson, Royal Fidelity; Eileen Keens, Yello.

global trends in the 21st century. Other speakers include **Todd Buccholz**, Economist and best-selling author, **Peter Haas**, Associate Director of the Brown University Humanity Centered Robotics Initiative, and best-selling author, **Alex Banayan**.

RF CEO is proudly sponsored by Campbells, Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd, DART, Fidelity Bank (Cayman) Limited, Hurleys Media Group, Logic, OAM, PricewaterhouseCoopers, RF Group, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) & Yello Media Group.

Conference registration is now open with Early Bird rates through February 9th. Further details are available

under both Democratic and Republican Presidents. Ambassador Burns offers a bipartisan view of foreign affairs and

online at rfceo.ky. RF CEO is an accredited Continuing Professional Development (CPD) provider.



▶ Sunwing Airlines plane landing at his first seasonal direct flight between Toronto and Grand Cayman

Grand Cayman welcomes Inaugural Sunwing Flight from Toronto

... Continued story from page A1

Residents of Southern Ontario can now fly direct to the Cayman Islands this winter with Sunwing Airlines. Flights are operated on Sundays from 2 February 2020 until 3 May 2020, inclusive. Flight WG742

with service from YYZ to GCM will depart at 6:15 am and arrive at 10:10 am. Flight WG743 with service from GCM to YYZ will depart at 11:15 am and arrive at 3:20 pm.

Sunwing Airlines is part of the largest integrated tour and travel company in North America and cur-

rently operates flights to other parts of the region such as Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Sint Maarten, St Vincent & the Grenadines and St Lucia.

Grand Cayman's Margaritaville Beach Resort is currently being featured by the airlines as an accommodation option for travelers. 🌐

UK-EU: Early trade talks stand-off

By Michael Jarvis, London UK

The first salvos have been fired in the trade negotiations battle between the United Kingdom and its now-erstwhile partner, the European Union.

Within minutes of each other, British Prime Minister Johnson and EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier set out their stall in separate high-profile public statements in London and Brussels.

The UK and the EU formally went their separate ways on January 31st, marking the end of a 47-year relationship built on free trade.

Dismantling that to replace it with an arrangement satisfactory to both sides was never going to be easy, and if this week's opening exchanges are anything to go by, it might be more difficult than thought.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is demanding that the EU gives the UK a free trade deal with all the bells and whistles by the end of this year or risk tariffs on its exports to the UK market, its most important trading partner.

The EU is equally digging in its heels, insisting on regulatory alignment in several key areas which the UK adamantly objects to.

For the British prime minister, such demands fly in the face of the UK regaining its 'sovereignty and independence' with Brexit.

With the best of intentions, negotiations are predicated on a win-win outcome. But, with both sides clearly and

forcefully laying down red lines at such an early stage makes giving ground, to at least save face, all the more challenging.

And while these might just be the opening salvos as each party marks out their turf, the one thing they don't have on their side is time.

The UK and the EU have locked themselves into a Withdrawal Agreement with a hard-wired 'transition period' that expires at the end of this year.

If the intention is to force each other into a compromise, current indications are that it might not work. There's no escape hatch other than to walk away... and blame each other for failing to compromise.

But failure is relative in this respect. Prime Minister Johnson is already being accused of setting the stage to force a no-deal outcome and reverting to World Trade Organisation(WTO) tariff-based trading rules to apply pressure on the EU.

The thinking is that he would then opt to conclude a preferred trade deal with the United States under a Trump administration (which has been sending enticing signals to Mr Johnson).

But current indicators suggest that such that 'deal' might not be that easily achieved.

The prospect of the UK-EU trade talks seems set to be a repeat of the numerous twists and turns of the negotiations for the Withdrawal Agreement which left shattered UK political careers in its wake over a three-year stretch.



The trade talks do not have the luxury of such a timespan. The Withdrawal Agreement limits them to a negotiating window of just nine months from March when the talks are expected to start in earnest.

Under normal circumstances, trade deals take years to complete.

And if by force of circumstance, a workable arrangement is arrived at, the early indications are that it might not be amicable.

That would not augur well for future relations.

The EU's own red lines, including its unswerving insistence on 'regulatory alignment', are already proving to be the equivalent of waving the proverbial red flag to the bull.

"The envisaged agreement should uphold the common high standards in the areas of state aid, competition, state-owned enterprises, social and employment standards, environmental standards, climate change, and relevant tax matters," it demands.

That clashes with the message coming from the UK: "We shall not be rule-takers."

Out of the question for the Boris Johnson government is the UK is being subjected to the European Court of Justice, another condition on which the EU is insisting.

Border control, especially the free movement of goods, services and people, is another EU demand.

The UK other the other hand is not amenable to a single market and customs union arrangement with the EU where such requirements are bolted on to any eventual agreement.

There's no doubt that there will be points of agreement on the core economic aspects of a trade deal.

It's crucial to both sides. Their respective economies depend on it.

It's vital that the promised goal of 'frictionless trade' is achieved. Even with the UK outside EU membership; their economies are that deeply intertwined.

Furthermore, the 'frictionless trade' mantra preached ad hominem and to great effect in the recent UK election, is not just political, it's practical.

If punitive tariffs come into the picture it would be a game of attrition. There'll be no winners.

Prime Minister Johnson is all but threatening to walk away if a deal is not reached by the agreed deadline of the end of this year - the end of the 'transition period' - set by the Withdrawal Agreement.

He is pushing for a deal modelled on the Canada-EU trade deal called Ceta (Canada-EU Trade Agreement).

The Ceta entails tariff free-trade and quotas on most goods but does not extend to financial services, a critical area for the UK.

Crucially, it took around eight years to negotiate and is still not fully signed off yet.

As the saying goes, the trade talks between the UK and the EU have a long way to go and a short time to get there.

The gulf between them - in content and tone - is deep, wide and reminiscent of the English Channel which separates the UK from the European mainland. They might as well be shouting across the channel from opposite shores...which in a sense they are.

But the British and mainland Europe have 'conquered' that channel and bridged that gap before.

They've done it historically by sailing across it, then flying over it, and more recently going under it with the Channel Tunnel.

(Submarines might qualify as going through it).

Trade has always been the main driver.

It is again. And the same ingenuity that bridged that physical gap must again be summoned by the UK and the EU to bridge their policy divide.

Their future relationship - trade and more - depends on it. 🌐

Caymanian Times

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The UCCI Learning Experience: Extracts from its Academic Standards Document

Academic standards are the benchmark of excellence and quality and the assurance to various stakeholders of the basis of accountability.

The local university, UCCI, correctly believes that student centredness is the linchpin, the connecting principle, the common core around which all activities, plans and ideas cohere. In this respect, one of the things it has done is explicitly state the standards to which it aspires.

These standards cover the gamut of student achievement and learning outcomes, institutional integrity, faculty, institutional planning and effectiveness and policies, procedures and practices as they affect the academic enterprise.

In this article, I share extracts of Part One of this document which relates to the UCCI learning experience.

Student Experience

Every academic department, in tandem with the rest of the University, will aim to ensure that all students have an exceptional and distinctive experience while at the University College.

The student experience encompasses many aspects of academic and intellectual development; social and emotional life; and the growth and refinement of cultural, political, sporting, and artistic interests.

The experience of being a student at the University College, from applicant to alumni should prepare students for life beyond their studies and foster a positive lifelong relationship with us. We will accomplish this through collaboration among the admissions office, the academic enterprise, student life, financial services, the office of alumni relations and the office of the President.

Student Engagement

UCCI faculty will aim to have students engaged intellectually, behaviourally, emotionally, physically, and socially. Department Chairs will incorporate this as part of faculty evaluation.

Student engagement is defined as the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students show when they are learning or being taught, which extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education. This definition stands on the premise that learning improves when students are interested, inspired, inquisitive, and interested. The reverse naturally occurs when they are disengaged.

There are five forms of student engagement:

Intellectual engagement: Heightening interest by choosing topics of interest to students, widening presentation options, and varying presentation styles. The use of high-impact teaching methods is outlined later in this document, and their use will go a far way in enhancing intellectual engagement.

Behavioral engagement: Developing purposeful interactive methods with students, assigning tasks or roles, groups, routines encompass this form of engagement. Research done on brain-based learning has revealed evidence that novelty, variation, and physical activity can stimulate and improve learning. The UCCI faculty member will need to become more creative in facilitating learning that engage students in active learning methods.

Emotional engagement: This requires the use of a wide variety of strategies to promote positive emotions in students that will support the learning process, decrease negative behaviours, and keep students from dropping out. For example, the learning environments may be redesigned to make them more conducive to learning; professors should be more alert and monitor students' moods and adjust delivery and interaction or use counseling, peer mentoring or other intervention services as deemed necessary. Students would then likely feel more positive, optimistic, and excited about learning. Some examples may be facilitating open discussions on personal passions, future aspirations, and specific learning challenges and needed support.

Physical engagement: Addressing or providing support and information in the areas of finance, nutrition, sleep, and time management are aspects of physical engagement. The Student Life Department at UCCI is especially poised to contribute to this area.

Social engagement: Through social interactions, students may be paired or grouped to work collaboratively on projects, or teachers may create academic contests through which students engage in friendly competition. Teams can be given specific tasks to complete in the shortest amount of time. Academic and co-curricular activities, volunteerism, involvement in civic groups among other activities can promote social engagement.

Cultural engagement: Take deliberate steps to assist students from all cultural backgrounds to feel welcomed, oriented, accepted, safe, and valued. The aim is to reduce the feelings of confusion, alienation, disconnection, or

exclusion that some students may experience.

Student engagement is generally accepted as being connected to academic success, retention, learning, and student experience. It must be a guiding force at UCCI.

Student engagement can take different forms. Students can be engaged in learning itself to include collaborative experiences, with research opportunities, peer mentoring, teaching as graduate assistants, study abroad, placements, at work sites, and volunteering.

Opportunities can be provided for students to be engaged with the institution through participation in student representation, evaluation, and feedback activities. Students can also be given voice in programme development.

Workforce Readiness through Experiential Learning

Each academic department at UCCI will ensure that students, regardless of the programme they are pursuing, gain appropriate workforce involvement and experiences. Where appropriate, competency-based assessments will be used to determine workforce readiness. Department Chairs will ensure that at least two forms of experiential learning are part of the programmes offered by the department.

In the US, The National Association of Colleges and Employers identified the top skills employers are looking for from recent college graduates in 2018. In order: problem-solving skills, ability to work in a team, communication skills, leadership, strong work ethic, analytic/quantitative skills, verbal communication skills, initiative, detail-oriented, flexibility/adaptability, technical skills, interpersonal skills, computer skills, creativity, friendly/outgoing personality, tactfulness, entrepreneurial skills/risk-taker and fluency in a foreign language. The top-five are problem-solving skills, ability to work in teams, written communication, leadership, and a strong work ethic. These are similar to the top ten list of essential 21st Century Employability Skills unearthed by the New World of Work: adaptability, analysis/solution mindset, collaboration, communication, digital fluency, entrepreneurial mindset, empathy, resilience, self-awareness and social/diversity awareness. The New World of Work (NWoW) is a 21st-century employability skills curriculum being taught at over 50 community colleges in California. The curriculum provides instruction in



► Dr. Livingston Smith is a Professor at the University College of the Cayman Islands. He is also Director of the CXC Education Volunteer programme

10 key competencies, using work-relevant content.

Whereas the classroom experiences are crucial in developing and honing these skills, ultimately, it is real-life experiences in workplace settings that will truly allow and prepare our students for employment.

Experiential learning is defined as knowledge and skills acquired and developed outside the traditional collegiate setting by means of experiences including, but not limited to, study abroad programmes, internships, undergraduate research, service-learning, scholarly and creative activities for which the student has not received academic credit, as well as professional work experiences and professional development self-study programmes.

Student Advisement

As experts in their fields, faculty members are expected to assist in the advisement of students. Advisement is here referred to in its widest sense inclusive of career, course progression and scheduling, course expectations, academic (relating to performance and solutions), retention and persistence, co-curricular activities and orientation. Student advisement is critical to students' matriculation and success at the University. Academic advisors must be knowledgeable of the curriculum, graduation requirements, and their respective field of study.

We continue with further extracts in upcoming articles. 🌐

Infectious Disease Precautions and Measures for Hospitality Businesses

For the past few weeks news of the coronavirus has been the talk of destinations all over the world. From a tourism perspective, Tourism Economics, STR's forecast partner, projects a potential 28 percent drop in visits to the U.S. from China in 2020. Which would equate to a loss of 4.6 million hotel room nights sold and \$5.8 billion in visitor spending.

For the Caribbean, according to CEO and Director General of Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association (CHTA), Frank Comito, less than 100,000 Chinese visit the Caribbean each year, and when they do – it is mostly to Cuba, Jamaica, and Bahamas. At this time, according to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), the risk in the Caribbean is low due to not having any direct flights from China and as major inbound markets begin entry screening.

Information on the coronavirus outbreak is being updated daily, and while

the hospitality and tourism industry cannot completely control the introduction of communicable diseases into their environment, it's important for the industry to continue to keep abreast of how the outbreak could potentially impact its operation and be prepared to take precautionary measures.

While it's still too early to know how much of this will be applicable to the current outbreak of coronavirus, there's no doubt that some general principles still apply.

Precautions & Measures for Hospitality Businesses

The coronavirus— just as the Zika virus, Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), SARS, and other infectious diseases— serves as a reminder for the industry businesses to check their policies and procedures to ensure they meet

a high level of care for their employees and visitors to their facilities.

- Have a coordination mechanism in place for impending epidemics on the use of screening, immediate reporting and isolation of infected persons to mitigate the impact of future events. Have a plan for dealing with sick guests.

- Keep employees informed of an outbreak, as the situation is fluid. Connect them with appropriate resources to learn more about the coronavirus. The Caribbean Public Health Agency and the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association websites, for example, often includes up-to-date information regarding the spread of a disease, risk assessment and guidance for travelers.

- Train and educate employees to recognize symptoms and provide definitive procedures for reporting suspected illness.

- Develop a method to determine when to send employees home, as well as procedures for handling the tasks normally done by employees who have become ill. This is a good practice to have in general.

- Reaffirm the business's established standards for hygiene measures and providing refresher training to staff regarding sanitation, hygiene and food safety. For example:

Perform hand hygiene frequently with soap and water, or a 70% alcohol-based hand rub.

Cover nose and mouth with tissue paper (or in elbow) when sneezing or coughing and discard any used tissue paper into lidded garbage bins after use

Dispose of trash frequently and properly. Wear clean, washable aprons and caps during food preparation. Clean and wash food thoroughly.



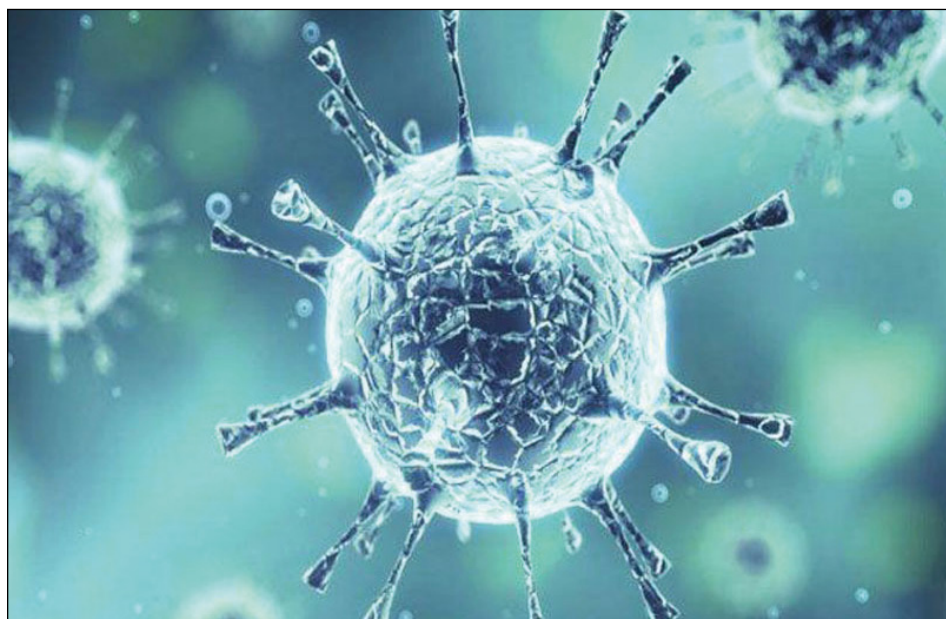
► Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International

Implement additional procedures to sanitize guest room telephones, keyboards, remote controls, appliance handles, door-knobs, light switches and other surfaces frequently handled.

- Alert guests to take certain simple precautions that can limit their risk.

- Remind employees that circulating misinformation in social media can be very damaging to the country's tourism industry.

Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International, a Caymanian-owned hospitality and tourism consulting and advisory firm. Visit Caymera at www.caymeragroup.com or email info@caymeragroup.com for more information. 🌐



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands' exhibition - Island of Women

7 February - The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands' exhibition - Island of Women, seeks to examine and bring to the fore, the vital role that women of diverse racial and economical backgrounds played in Caymanian society from the 1800's through to the mid-20th century. A group of contemporary artists has been selected and commissioned to respond to this theme in a diverse range of mediums, styles and genres, inspired by oral histories, archival material and historical objects relevant to the subject. This exhibition runs until 21 May. For more information, visit <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/whats-on/exhibitions/island-of-women/>.

Valentine's 5K Fun Walk/Run

8 February - The Mothers' Union of the St. George's Anglican Church presents the 4th annual Valentine's 5k Fun Walk/Run beginning at 6am at Smith's Cove Barcadere. The theme of this year's event is "Keeping Families Healthy". Tickets are \$10 for adults and FREE for children under 12. There will be prizes and surprises. Proceeds are in aid of Maple House and other outreach projects. Register online at www.caymanactive.com/registrations or arrive at 5:30am for late on-the-day registration. The route starts at Smith Cove Barcadere, down to "The Avenue" and back to Smith Cove Barcadere. Participants will be timed and water will be available at the finish. Well behaved and on-leash dogs are allowed.

Coco Fest

8 February - Coco Fest is back on Saturday 8 Feb. at Pedro St. James from 12pm to 6pm. You can find coconut inspired food, treats, fresh coconut water, crafts, games, music, and more! Enter coconut cake competition and

watch many demonstrations! Admission is only \$5 and FREE for kids under 6. Proceeds from each entry fee benefit Meals On Wheels.

Heart Warriors & Angels Beach Walk 2020

9 February - All are invited to the 2nd. annual Heart Warriors & Angels Beach Walk which commemorates Congenital Heart Defects Awareness Week and in memory of baby Nolan Evans. The walk begins at the Public Beach starting at 7am. Registration fee is CI\$25 and includes an event t-shirt. Warriors and Angels costumes for all ages are welcomed. There will be complimentary refreshments and face painting as well as great prizes and much more. Your contribution will be long lasting in the efforts to fund the support of local families with CHD babies. Your support would truly be an investment in our community! For registration, please email teamnolan-evans@outlook.com or aillianevans@hotmail.co.uk

Annual KiwaniBike Cycle Event

9 February - The Kiwanis Club of Grand Cayman is having their 38th. annual cycling event beginning at 7am. This annual fundraiser is very popular amongst the riding community! The riders bring their bikes to Smith Cove and are then transported with their bikes to the Blow Holes. From there, everyone cycles 20 miles back to the finish at Smith Cove. All proceeds support the Kiwanis Youth Service Clubs. For more information, go to www.kiwanis.ky or email info@kiwanis.ky.



► Agricultural Show

Cayman Arts Festival 2020

13 - 22 February - Cayman Arts Festival brings world-class performing arts to Cayman to inspire, entertain and educate. This year's festival brings a variety of artists and performances from Philadelphia to Latvia. From the classical music from Latvian natives Kristine and Margarita Balanas, many genres of music including jazz, soul and R&B from the Lana Janjanin Trio to the internationally acclaimed brass ensemble, The Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass, composed of some of America's top brass musicians, there is something for every musical taste. Visit <http://caymanartsfestival.com/> for all information on Cayman Arts Festival 2020.



Free Small Biz Bootcamp

20 February - The CI Chamber of Commerce is offering a free small business Bootcamp Workshop will take you through the basics of managing small business finances and give you the information needed to make good business decisions. Thursday's session will focus on Budgeting & Forecasting. To register, visit their website caymanchamber.ky or call 949 - 8090.

Agricultural Show

26 February - Now in its 53rd. year, the Agricultural Show promises to be another successful event. Meet local farmers, try delicious local food, enjoy local music and partake in the many activities offered. The Grounds at Lower Valley open at 7:30am and general admission is adults \$10 and \$5 for children 2 to 12 years old.

Data Protection Law Awareness Session

28 February - The Ombudsman Office is hosting an awareness session on the Data Protection Law on February 28 at the George Town Public Library from 2 to 4pm. Anyone may attend and may register at info@ombudsman.ky or call 946 - 6283 for more information.

There will be another session in March.

Cayman Brac Annual Fundraiser - "Roaring 20s"

29 February - The Cayman Brac District Committee presents a night of fun and fundraising. The theme is "Roaring 20s" and takes place at the Brac Trust House starting at 6pm. The cost is CI\$25 per person and includes a meal. For more information, call 916 - 3960.

Red Sky at Night

29 February - Red Sky at Night is the anchor event for Cayfest and is a favourite of participants and attendees alike. Each year patrons are treated to live performances from musicians, dancers, actors and storytellers, as well as displays of creative work by visual artists and artisans, all on the grounds of the F.J. Harquail Cultural Centre. Visitors revel in a sensory filled experience at this multi-disciplined arts fair, as the sounds of steel pan, fiddle and drums, and the aroma of mouthwatering local culinary delicacies waft on the night air. For more information, or to buy tickets visit <https://www.artscayman.org/red-sky-at-night/>

Your fastest track to fat loss



► Ernest Ebanks

If you have weight to lose, then this message is meant specifically for you. Through my work with clients over the years, I've come to learn the fastest track to fat loss, and I'd like to share it with you today.

First, I'd like to ask you a few questions. At this stage in your life, have you noticed the following?

- It's easier to gain weight these days.
- Your body is changing as you age, and not in a good way.
- You have less muscle and more unattractive bodyfat.
- It takes more and more effort to reduce your body fat.
- The dieting tricks that once worked aren't helping anymore.

If any on this list are true for you, you are in good company.

The fact is that once we reach middle age, fat loss becomes more and more difficult to accomplish.

My older clients know firsthand, that the older we get the harder it is to maintain a healthy body weight. Some have even told me that they feel like their own bodies are working against them.

I have awesome news for you, though, just as I did for them.

You can do something to achieve serious fat loss right now.

It's possible to look better than ever, to experience more energy, and to be proud of the body that you see in the mirror. But...it requires that you ACT NOW!

Today is the easiest that your fat loss transformation will ever be. Every day

that passes by without you taking action only makes it tougher and tougher to become a leaner, happier, sexier version of yourself. If you want your fastest track to fat loss, then stop waiting.

Don't let another year or two pass you by before you decide to do something about your weight, once and for all. I'm here to help you do something NOW to reverse the clock by melting away fat, increasing your energy and filling you with unstoppable confidence.

Call Ernest at Body Shapers Fitness 325-8696 or email now at bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com and let's get you started on your epic body transformation!

TIME FOR TRANSFER FACTOR

In 1949, Dr. H. Sherwood Lawrence, a New York University researcher and Immunologist, made a very significant discovery that immune information is transferable from one specie to another. The strange molecules attached to the immune cells were the ones responsible for the transferring of immunity, and so he called them, "TRANSFER FACTORS."

Transfer Factors:
Help immune cells quickly recognize invading germs or other potent threats.

Helps the immune system respond more efficiently after an invader has been identified.

Lends a hand in remembering how to tackle each problem your immune system encounters, so your body knows exactly what to do the next time.

So, the main functions of Transfer Factor is, "RECOGNIZE, RESPOND AND REMEMBER."

You see, in the first critical days of life for humans and other mammals, a

mother passes on vital immune knowledge through the first meal - COLOSTRUM - which contains transfer factor molecules. As nature's first supplement, these memory molecules transfer immune experience to educate and prepare the newborn's system to function in the world. Transfer Factors provide information so immune cells can do their jobs faster and more effectively. Research has shown that transfer factor molecules are abundant in nature.

Transfer Factor is known to be the only supplement in the world made by the immune system for the immune system. The molecules are unique, as they contain information that can be passed from one system to another. It educates, enhances and balances the immune system which causes a positive domino effect on the entire human body.

4 LIFE an outstanding company can be considered the pioneer in research and development of Transfer Factors. They found that babies who were not breast fed during the first 3 days of birth are more prone to immune invaders. As mentioned in humans it's called Colos-

trum. In cows it's within the first 9 gallons of milk. Chicken egg yolk also contained similar Transfer Factors.

Through a patented filtration process, 4 LIFE extracts transfer factors from cow colostrum and chicken egg yolk for the foundation of its top immune transfer factor product, "TRANSFER FACTOR TRI-FACTOR PLUS."

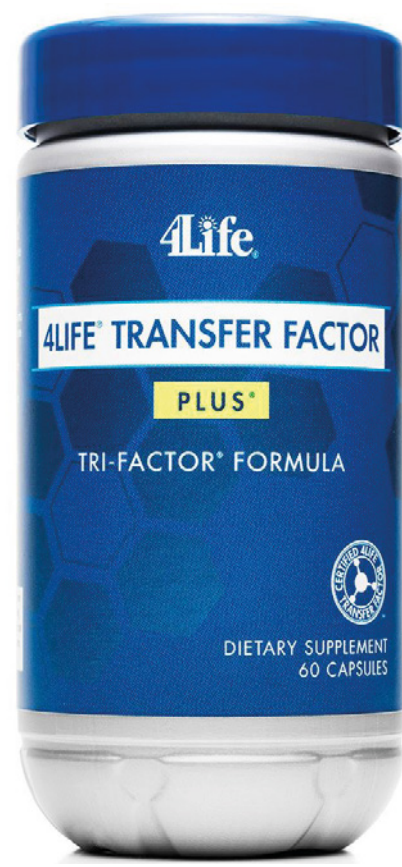
What it does?
Supports the immune system's natural ability to educate, enhance and balance the immune system with the exclusive Tri-Factor formula.

Boosts NK cell activity by a proven 437%.

Includes a proprietary blend of ingredients such as maitake mushrooms, shiitake mushrooms, cordyceps, and beta-glucan.

My family and I have been using this unmatched formula for years. Who knows, with this dangerous virus roving, maybe it's time to boost your immune system with this awesome product.

You can contact Anthony 9246837, Raphael 9257798 or Ricardo 9251734, for more information.



WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
82° / 79°	82° / 78°	81° / 78°	81° / 78°	80° / 78°	80° / 77°	79° / 78°
Partly sunny with a shower	Partly sunny and nice	Sunshine, breezy and nice	Breezy in the a.m.; sunshine	Beautiful with sunshine	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny

POLICE NEWS

Stolen KIA Sportage from Spott's Beach

Just after 4PM on Monday, 3 February, police responded to a report at the Spott's Beach, along Shamrock Road, where it was reported that a gold KIA Sportage, registration number 181-756 was stolen from the parking lot between 2PM and 4PM. In addition to the vehicle, a bag containing personal belongings, electronics and documents was also stolen from the beach. (Attached is a similar vehicle).

Registration #: **181-756**
 Year: **2018**
 Color: **Gold**
 Make: **KIA**

Model: **Sportage**
 Police are asking that anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of this vehicle to contact the George Town Police Station at 949-4222 or call 9-1-1.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website <http://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 <https://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=681>.



MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION



FADS THAT ARE FADING - HEBREWS 10:22

I am always amazed at how easily and quickly fashions come and go amongst children. From fidget spinners, to popular dances to crazy handshakes to the floss. As adults we can also be caught up in the bandwagon swayed by popularity.

Instead, consider our relationship in and with Christ. Paul here is admonishing us that we must be steadfast in understanding our salvation comes through Jesus' death on the cross. HE PAID FOR OUR SINS. He is coming back SOON to take us to the home He has prepared for us. Baptism

is a beautiful picture of the inward change Christ has made in our lives.

Is your faith just a fad? Are you swayed by the world? Or are you steadfast and secure in Jesus?



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OBITUARIES

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Ruth Adena Thompson-Eden, who passed away on Friday January 31, 2020. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Church of God Universal, George Town, Grand Cayman on Sunday February 9, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Viewing: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Interment at: Prospect Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Juan Antonio Casero, who passed away on Sunday, January 12, 2020. Mr. Casero will be repatriated to Cuba.

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Jewel Verbena Forbes, who passed away on Monday, January 20, 2020. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at North Side Civic Center, North Side, Grand Cayman on Sunday February 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Viewing: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Interment: North Side Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Barbara Reid-Seymour, who passed away on Thursday, January 16, 2020. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Susan Smith- Stoencia who passed away on Wednesday, January 15, 2019. A Service to Celebrate the life of Ms. Susan Smith-Stoencia will be held at South Sound Community Center, George Town, Grand Cayman on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Sariyah Natalia Jelysa Stafford (Infant), who passed away on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. The late Sariyah Natalia Jelysa Stafford will be repatriated to Trinidad & Tobago.

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

The Family of the Late **Robert Flynn Parchman** regret to announce his passing on Thursday, 23rd January, 2020

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday February 8th, 2020 at Crossroad United Baptist Church Cayman Brac, Cayman Islands

Interment will follow at West End Cemetery

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

The Family of the Late **Lana Poldervaart** regret to announce her passing on Sunday, 2 February 2020.

A funeral service on Cayman Brac, will be announced at a later date.

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

The Family of the Late **Ruth Lee Smith** regret to announce her passing on Friday, 31 January 2020.

A funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, 8 February 2020 at Church of God Chapel, Walkers Road.

Interment will follow in Miller Cemetery.

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

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE — WEEK — FEBRUARY 9 - 15



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Costa Luminosa	Brilliance of the Seas	Adventure of the Seas	Celebrity Reflection	Regal Princess		AIDAdiva
	Carnival Conquest	Carnival Legend	Carnival Paradise	Serenade of the Seas		Veendam
	Berlin	Norwegian Getaway	MSC Meraviglia	MSC Armonia		Brilliance of the Seas
		Carnival Vista	Nieuw Statendam	Seven Seas Explorer		
			Liberty of the Seas	Celebrity Equinox		
Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers
2,260	5,804	12,693	16,636	11,824	0	6,179

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



GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

Indians migrating to Canada rather than US

Canada is seeing an influx of professional Indians, motivated by more restrictive immigration policies under the Trump administration and the difficulty of obtaining green cards in the United States. The number of Indians obtaining permanent residence in Canada has more than doubled since 2016. Given current trends, Indian scientists and engineers will likely continue to see Canada

as an attractive alternative location to make their careers and raise a family.

The number of Indians who became permanent residents in Canada increased from 39,340 in 2016 to 80,685 up to the end of November 2019, an increase of more than 105 percent, according to a National Foundation for American Policy (NFAP) analysis of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada data. Full-year Canadian statistics will likely show more than 85,000 Indian immigrants in 2019.

"Canada is benefitting from a diversion of young Indian tech workers from US destinations, largely because of the challenges of obtaining and renewing H-1B visas and finding a reliable route to US permanent residence," said Peter Rekai, founder of the Toronto-based immigration law firm Rekai LLP.



► Canadian Sikhs with Justin Trudeau

In the United States, the denial rate for H-1B petitions for continuing employment has become much higher since Donald Trump came to office in 2016.

Due to the low number of employment-based immigrant visas (green cards) and the per-country limit, an Indian-born professional might need to wait decades before obtaining permanent residence in the United States.

Many US and Indian technology companies have opened affiliate offices in Canada. The Canadian government, for its part, has streamlined its work permit process for tech workers and provides a clear path to permanent residence. There are other factors why Canada is more attractive and easier to settle in including overseas university entry and the relative ease and short time frame to be given full residency. 🌐

Treasure hunters endanger village

Excavations by treasure hunters searching for a hoard of gold in the Philippines, said to have been hidden by a Japanese World War II general, are threatening to cause landslides in a remote village.

The search for fabled buried treasure is inspired by centuries-old Filipino folktales, according to an anthropologist. The treasure seems to be just that — a fable — as historians say it probably doesn't even exist.

"People are spending a lot of money and a lot of time and effort looking for stuff that is probably not there," said Piers Kelly, an anthropologist at the University of New England in Armidale, Australia.

In the latest development, people in the Igaras district on the island of Panay have asked officials to put a stop to excavations that they fear could cause landslides.

The villagers say the excavations by 10 men have gone on for more than a year near their village, in a fenced-off area that's about 10,800 square feet (1,000 square metres).



► Illegal treasure hunters are endangering villagers

But according to local officials, the treasure hunters say that national authorities in Manila gave them permission to dig, and that they will continue their excavations. The treasure hunters also turned away local police from the excavation site.

The village where the excavations are taking place is built on a hillside and faces a "very high risk" of landslides, according to a previous assessment by the Philippines' Mines and Geosciences Bureau. The villagers fear that up to nine houses could be buried.

The mayor of the Igaras district, Jaime Esmeralda, has assured the villagers that his officials have granted no permits for treasure hunting, excavations or mining in the area. 🌐

Honduran nurses on strike

Striking nurses have accused the Honduran government of treating them like animals, vowing that they will keep going until demands for increased pay and an end to the threat of dismissal are met.

Their union, the Association of Nurses and Auxiliary Nurses in Honduras (Aneeah), has urged the government of President Juan Orlando Hernandez to respond to the nurses' requests and "avoid violating the right to health of citizens."

Nurses have been on strike since last Monday over the Ministry of Health's plans to sack auxiliary nurses and replace them with other professionals, along with the government's refusal to enter negotiations over a pay rise.

They want a pay rise of one thousand lempiras (\$40) by 2021. But they are being rebuffed by the government which halted previous negotiations without warning.

Aneeah has urged the government to restore the "environment of reconciliation" and reach a "fair and non-discriminatory solution" to the dispute.



► Honduran nurses feel severely underpaid

The Honduran government has faced mass strikes and protests from public-sector workers, including teachers and doctors, over its plans to privatise the health and education sectors.

Protesters have been met with a heavy-handed response as the military and security services were mobilised against them during last year's protests, firing tear gas and live ammunition into crowds.

Hernandez has faced growing calls for his resignation with the poverty rate increasing more than 10 percent in Honduras since the 2009 Washington-backed coup — now standing at roughly 70 per cent of the population. 🌐

Cuba is resigned to another Trump term

Cuba is "prepared" for the possibility of Donald Trump's re-election and the continuation of crushing US sanctions against the island, according to Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel.

His challenge to the Trump administration came during a tour of central Cuba last week. The focus of the trip was officially the local economy, but the 2020 US election appeared to be very much on Diaz-Canel's mind.

"It's ridiculous how the United States practically every week sanctions Cuba and then uses manipulative language to say this is 'helping' the Cuban people," Diaz-Canel said. "We are not going to surrender nor dishonour ourselves nor get on our knees whatever price we have to pay."

The price could be very high. Few countries have as much at stake as Cuba does in the November election. All the top Democratic candidates have declared they are in favour of the policy of engagement and lifting the six decades old US economic embargo on the communist-run island.

President Trump on the other hand dismantled the history-making Obama opening with Cuba and has placed some



► Gas shortages in Cuba is one of many problems

of the most punishing sanctions on the island in decades, which Cuba blames for shortages of fuel, food and even gas for cooking.

While Republican presidents have historically supported the claim by conservative Cuban Americans, most of whom live in swing state Florida, that Cuba needs to hold multi-party elections and make repatriations for property seized after the 1959 revolution, Trump has hit the island especially hard.

How to improve the island's struggling economy in the face of tougher sanctions is the most pressing challenge for Cuba's new president, who was born in 1960, the same year the US economic embargo went into place. 🌐

Venezuela's crypto causing problems

Petro, the cryptocurrency pet project from Venezuelan President's Nicolas Maduro, is causing more problems than solving them.

Retail stores in Venezuela are protesting the Petro by refusing to accept it as a payment method. Retailers say that no supplier accepts the "cryptocurrency," which means vendors must exchange it for the local fiat currency.

Ordinarily this wouldn't be too much of a problem, but because of Venezuela's wild hyperinflation, it's putting vendors in a tight spot.

The Bank of Venezuela rolls the conversion rate from Petro to fiat back to

when a good was bought. As a result of hyperinflation, the value of that good rapidly increases, vendors have reportedly found it difficult to reliably replenish stock.

Josefina Salvatierra, executive director at the National Council of Commerce and Services (Consecomercio), said this could leave retailers unable to replenish their inventory as they simply don't have the cash. "The Petro is a scam for the merchant," Salvatierra said. With continued hyperinflation and the time delay to liquidate Petros for fiat, it appears to be doing little to nothing to allay the country's economic challenges. 🌐



► Venezuela's cryptocurrency is not working

Brits living longer, especially men

When it comes to long and healthy lives, residents of the UK have increased significantly in the last few decades.

Statistics from the Office for National Statistics show that life expectancy changes in recent years have shown men are catching up to women, who have historically lived longer because of biological advantages and safer lifestyles.

Improvements in life expectancy have slowed in recent years but it has risen dramatically since the 1970s.

Women live longer than men all over the world for various reasons — among them, that oestrogen naturally lowers cholesterol so puts females at a lower risk of heart diseases and stroke.

Women also tend to be more health-conscious so less likely to put off getting medical help and, in the past, traditionally worked in less dangerous jobs.

Expectancy improvements are slowing down, recent data has shown, after decades of gains brought on by medical advances, falling smoking rates and improvements in public and workplace health and safety.



► UK's old people live longer

"There is no simple answer to why life expectancy growth is moving at a slower pace than a decade ago," David Sinclair, director of the International Longevity Centre UK think-tank said.

"Some argue government austerity, or the social care crisis are to blame, others point to a slowdown in improvements to certain age-related diseases.

"But underneath these headline rates lies another much deeper and more urgent scandal — the vast inequalities in life expectancy.

"The most deprived group of men live nine fewer years than the least deprived. And despite living less long, this group spends more time in poor health." 🌐

Jones talks of going heavy at last

Jon "Bones" Jones is ready to defend his UFC light-heavyweight championship Saturday at UFC 247, but he already has his sights on finally moving up to heavyweight.

Jones is plotting a move up to heavyweight to challenge champion Stipe Miocic after he defends his 205-pound crown against Dominick Reyes.

Jones, 31, headlines UFC 247 against 12-0 contender Reyes, 30, at the Toyota Centre in Houston, Texas.

It marks the American's third title defence since he won for a third time when he stopped Alexander Gustafsson in December 2018.

But Bones admitted his impending move up to heavyweight could come if he is victorious against Reyes - and scoffed at the idea of a warm-up fight before facing Miocic.

Jones told ESPN: "There's a really good chance. I feel like I really want to fight Stipe Miocic. I think I could beat him. I don't think I would need a tune-up; I'm pretty tuned up. I'm in tune."

"I feel great, I feel strong already. Stipe is what, 230? 235 pounds? I feel like me at a lean 230, I could totally beat him."

Miocic lost his title to Jones' great rival Daniel Cormier in July 2018, but avenged the defeat in his next fight with a fourth round knockout to claim back the belt.

Cormier was beaten by Jones on points in 2015 and KO'd two years later, though the rematch loss was overturned to a no contest after Bones' tested positive for anabolic steroid Turinabol.

However, Jones takes confidence from his performances against DC when compared to Miocic's as the pound-for-pound king eyes a second UFC title.

There has been speculation that Miocic will face Cormier a third time in his next match.

Jones already defeated Cormier in 2017, although the result was overturned after he tested positive for a banned substance.

He officially has a 25-1 career record in 27 MMA fights, with his only loss



► Jon Jones dominates UFC's light-heavies



► Valentina Shevchenko is the woman flyweight champ

coming by disqualification. His consistency has helped him be ranked the No. 1 pound-for-pound fighter in the world by UFC.

It's also limited his options in his current division as he continues to defeat all comers.

Jones said that after his most recent title defence, in which he earned a hard-fought split decision over Thiago Santos, he was given the option of facing either Reyes or Corey Anderson. Jones said the excitement Reyes has brought to his fights was enough to give him the nod.

On the undercard, Valentina Shevchenko is focused on beating Katelyn Chookagian entering UFC 247.

Shevchenko (18-3 MMA, 7-2 UFC), the UFC women's flyweight champion, made that abundantly clear in the build-up.

The champ is widely perceived as being close to cleaning out a division thin on legitimate challengers, which is why there's been plenty of chatter about potential super fights with champs in higher divisions. But she's having none of it.

"First of all, I'm focused on my fight this Saturday," Shevchenko said. "I'm not thinking about any further fights."

While Shevchenko brushed off the question of eventual super fights, she understands the fantasizing and predicting that comes when fans and media alike talk about the future.

Shevchenko is firm favourite against Chookagian (13-2 MMA, 6-2 UFC). The New Jersey-based fighter's first UFC title shot comes on the heels of back-to-back victories, so she is not short of confidence. 🌐

Jackson MVP shuts down his detractors

Lemar Jackson, the Baltimore Ravens quarterback, is enjoying being named the NFL's Most Valuable Player.

After a historic season in which he accounted for 43 touchdowns, an NFL rushing record of 1,206 yards on the ground from a quarterback, Jackson became the youngest player since Jim Brown to be named MVP.

Not bad for a guy that 31 teams passed on during the 2018 NFL Draft.

"I want to thank God, first and foremost, because he's the reason I'm here now," Jackson said. "There's been a lot of doubt going on. Me being a running back, a receiver, stuff like that. That came when I got to the league."

Doubts about Jackson's capabilities were rooted in coded language that was spearheaded by Hall of Fame greats like Bill Polian, a former Indianapolis Colts exec, who was forced to apologize after insisting that the 23-year-old phenom would struggle as a quarterback.

"I was wrong because I used the old, traditional quarterback standard with him," Polian admitted. "Bottom line, I was wrong." He sure as hell was.

Though other than a light jab at sceptics, Jackson was otherwise unbothered while touting his ability to transform turmoil into triumph.



► Lamar Jackson had a sensational season with the Ravens

In his first full season as a starter for the Ravens, Jackson led the NFL with an electrifying 36 passing touchdowns after playing only 15 games. The Ravens also racked up a league-best 531 points and finished the season with a 14-2 record.

Not bad for a "wide receiver." "It feels good to win the award," he said after joining New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady as the only unanimous MVPs in league history. "He's the guy who has six Super Bowls. I have to get my first one."

And taking his skill set into account, it's only a matter of time. 🌐

Darren Bravo recalled for Sri Lanka tour

Cricket West Indies has announced a 15-player squad for their ODI series in Sri Lanka beginning on Feb. 22, with recalls for Darren Bravo, Rovman Powell and Fabian Allen. But there is no place for Shimron Hetmyer or Evin Lewis, both of whom failing to meet new minimum fitness standards.

"Darren Bravo and Rovman Powell owe their recall to their outstanding performance in the Colonial Medical Super50 tournament," CWI Lead Selector Roger Harper said. "Bravo brings good form, a renewed appetite for runs and lots of experience which will benefit the team tremendously. Powell who is back from injury, will add batting firepower to the lineup, in-

crease the team's bowling options and strengthen the fielding unit."

West Indies come into the series off the back of 3-0 victories over Afghanistan and Ireland, as well as a narrow 2-1 loss away in India in their three most recent ODI series, results Harper believes the team can build on as the team look to improve on their current ninth position in the Men's ODI Team Rankings.

Squad: Kieron Pollard (captain), Shai Hope (vice-captain), Fabian Allen, Sunil Ambris, Darren Bravo, Roston Chase, Sheldon Cottrell, Jason Holder, Alzarri Joseph, Brandon King, Keemo Paul, Nicholas Pooran, Rovman Powell, Romario Shepherd, Hayden Walsh. 🌐



► Darren Bravo is back in the West Indies fold

Chicharito must fill Zlatan's void

Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez, the most recognisable Mexican player for over a decade, is the new superstar to join LA Galaxy and the marketing possibilities seem endless.

The sight of Chicharito going up against compatriot Carlos Vela when the MLS season starts at the end of February, adds another layer of hype to the intra-city rivalry with LAFC.

Th signing of Hernandez is possibly the biggest since David Beckham in 2007. But that would require forgetting Zlatan Ibrahimovic, which is impossible. There's no ignoring the 53 goals the rangy Swede scored over two seasons, nor forget the endless stream of sound-bites. The beauty of the Zlatan signing was that he gave people a reason to watch every week, whether it was for something he did on the field or said off it. All of which makes for a mighty vacuum that Hernandez, 31, is stepping into.



► Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez is the new LA Galaxy star



► Carlos Vela took the MVP last season

Hernandez is much travelled and can boast Manchester United, Real Madrid, West Ham United and Sevilla on his resume.

Yet bringing in Hernandez wasn't a swap deal. Ibrahimovic left of his own ac-

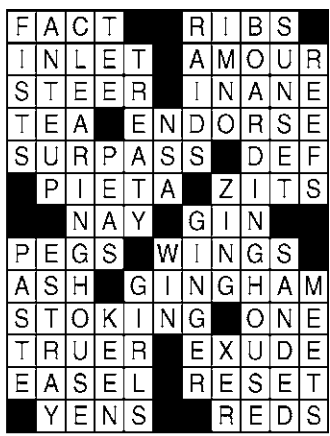
cord, re-joining Milan in January, so the question for the Galaxy was how best to compensate for the Swede's departure. Hernandez fits the bill and then some. That's especially true on the marketing side and, like it or not, that's a clear fac-

tor in this kind of acquisition. The signing of Hernandez isn't just about making up for Ibrahimovic but about keeping up with LAFC, especially with Vela, 30, tearing up the league on his way to an MVP season in 2019. 🌐

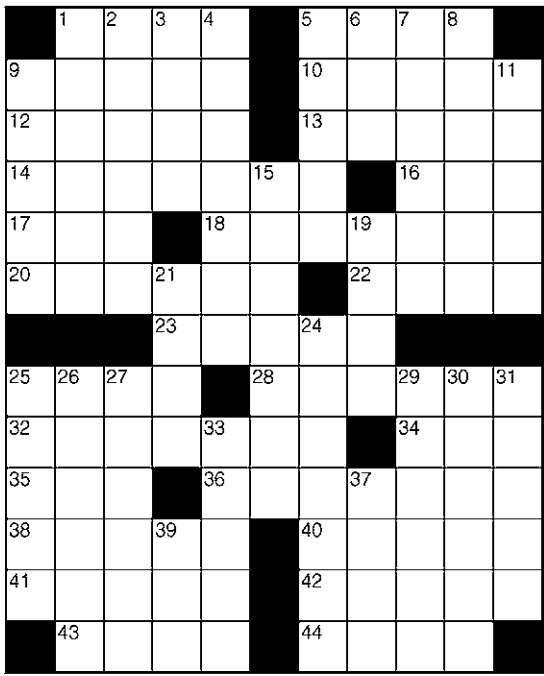
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Fuming
 - 1 Car
 - 41 Back biter
 - take-back,
 - 42 Script
 - for short
 - 43 Auto ding
 - 5 Touch on
 - 44 Ship pole
 - 9 View over
 - 10 Art
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 - 12 Made a
 - choice
 - 13 Dancer
 - Castle
 - 14 Reach-
 - ing a high
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 - 25 Nimble
 - 28 Straighten
 - out
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 - 35 Knack
 - 36 Sphagnum
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 - 38 One-time
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 - Alaska
- DOWN**
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 - 2 Ritzy
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 - 3 Cheat at
 - hide and
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 - father
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 - señorita
 - 19 DEA
 - 6 Chestnut
 - case
 - 21 Forks over
 - 7 Depleted
 - 8 Beliefs
 - 25 Twitch
 - neighbor
 - 9 Boxing
 - ring
 - border
 - 11 Good
 - judgment
 - 15 Triton
 - orbits
 - it
 - 21 agent
 - 22 agent
 - 24 Requires
 - 25 Twitch
 - neighbor
 - 26 Sentence
 - ender
 - 27 Baby's
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 - 29 Illinois city
 - 30 Mob
 - member
 - 31 Theater
 - boxes
 - 33 Set off
 - 37 Stumble
 - 39 Mo.



Yesterday's answer



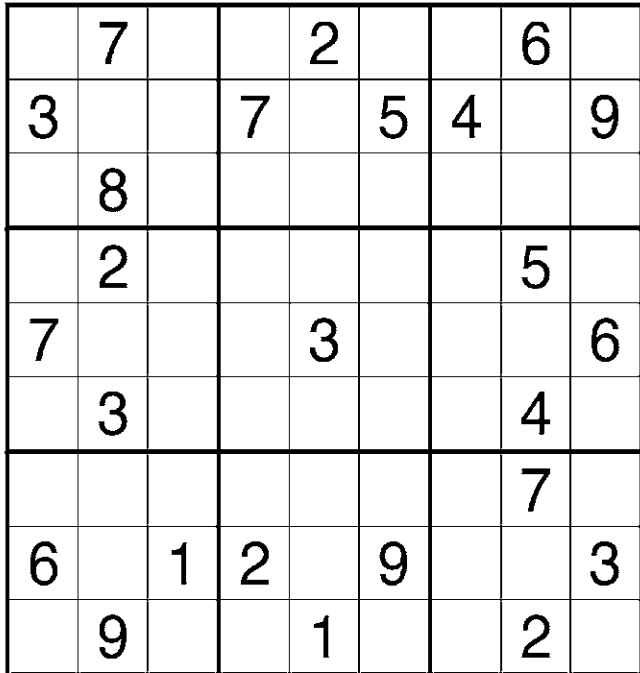
12-29

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 ★★★★★

11/09

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Word Search

- Ada
- Algol
- Assembler
- Autocode
- Basic
- Cobol
- Comal
- Coral
- Forth
- Fortran
- HTML
- Basic
- Java
- Jovial
- Lisp
- Logo
- Pascal
- Perl
- Prolog
- Snobol
- XML



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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