

# Caymanian Times

Monday, March 2, 2020

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Sunrise Adult Training Centre (SRC) display their creativity

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Bermuda boasts zero homicides

## CAYMAN OFFICER CADETS HIT HOME STRETCH

By Royal Bermuda Regiment Public Relations Office

The Caymanian contingent working with the Royal Bermuda Regiment is on the home stretch of two weeks of tough training.

Now the five Officer Cadets were scheduled to take part in a Passing Out Parade on Friday alongside private soldiers from the RBR.

The Cayman Islands Regiment troops earlier last week got lessons in first aid and field communications, as well as firing their first shots on the range at the RBR's Warwick Camp.

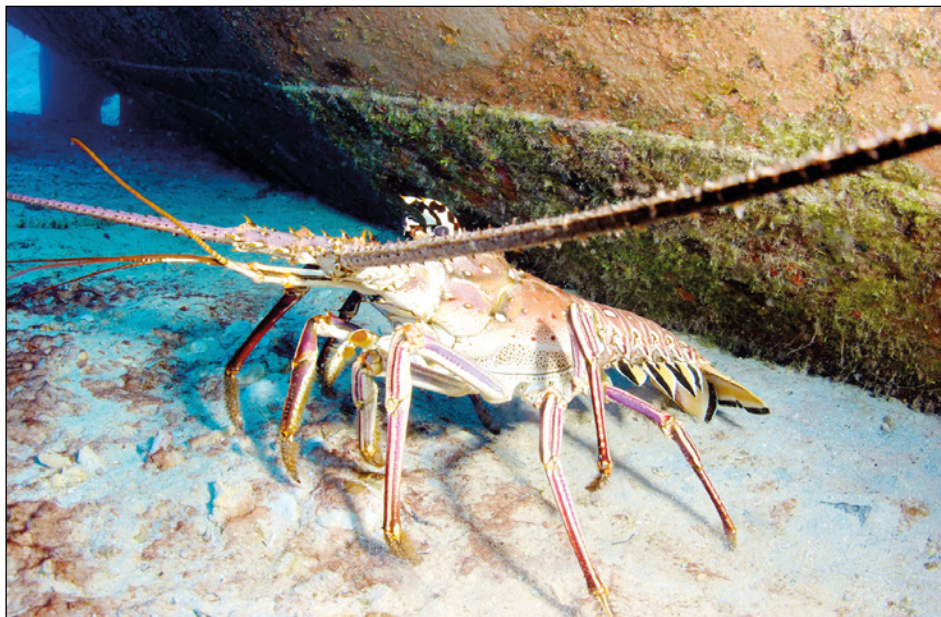
And they spent their first night under canvas at Hog Bay in Sandys Parish, a 32 acre national park, as well as tackling the formidable RBR assault course.

Officer Cadet Theodore Kelly, 29, said he enjoyed the first aid training, which involved him lifting burly RBR recruit

... Continued story on page A7



## Lobster fishing season closes Sunday, 1st March



The Cayman Islands lobster fishing season closes Sunday, 1 March.

The National Conservation Law (NCL) sets the closed season for lobster fishing from 1 March through 30 November each year. No one may take lobster from Cayman waters, or purchase, receive or possess lobster taken from Cayman waters during that period.

The closed seasons for various protected species, including lobster, are set to allow these creatures a chance to repopulate in the wild.

The NCL sets a general penalty upon conviction of up to four years imprisonment and/or up to \$500,000 in fines for the illegal removal of marine protected species from the environment.

... Continued story on page A2

## DEPUTY SPEAKER QUILTS AMID SPEAKER CONTROVERSY

The next sitting of the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly will most likely be presided over by a new Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

In a surprising turn of events, both substantive holders of the two most senior positions in the LA have stepped away from their roles.

The Deputy Speaker Hon. Bernie Bush MLA has resigned in an announcement that comes on the heels of the Speaker Hon. McKeever Bush taking a leave of absence after being caught up in a swirl of controversy over allegations of assault.

In a statement Hon. Bernie Bush cited the controversy which has engulfed the substantive Speaker as the main reason for his decision.

"The recent incident involving the Speaker of the House which resulted in

a female member of the public being injured, only to be followed by the Speaker taking a temporary leave of absence, leaves me in an untenable situation when considering the severity and seriousness of this incident and the implications of the Speaker's planned leave."

In a comment on the matter which has been occupying centre stage in ongoing public discourse, the now ex-Deputy Speaker said he was "encouraged by the many people who refuse to stay silent and refuse to compromise their principles.

"More and more people are choosing to do the hard but right thing, instead of going along trying to justify the easy wrong."

In his statement which promoted the hashtags '#sheissupported' and

... Continued story on page A3



► The Deputy Speaker Hon. Bernie Bush



Caymanian Times

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POLICE NEWS

# Police Recover Drug and Firearm Following a Vehicle Stop

Just before noon on Tuesday 25 February, police had cause to stop a vehicle that was travelling along Academy Way in George Town.

The driver of the vehicle, a 22-year-old-man of George Town, was arrested on suspicion of possession of cocaine with intent to supply as well as in relation to a robbery that took place at Shedden Road, George Town on 21 February.

The residence of the driver was later searched and a loaded handgun was recovered. Following the recovery of the weapon a 36-year-old-woman of George Town, was arrested on suspicion of possession of an unlicensed firearm. The 22-year-old driver of the vehicle was also further arrested on suspicion of this offense.

On Thursday 27 February the 22-year-old-man of George Town has been charged with the offenses of Pos-



session of Cocaine, Possession of an Unlicensed Firearm and Possession of an Unlicensed Firearm (Ammunition). He was granted police bail relative to the robbery incident and was expected to appear in summary court on Thursday afternoon.

The 36-year-old woman was also granted police bail in relation to the offense of suspicion of possession of an unlicensed firearm whilst investigations continue. 📍

# CIGTV GUIDE FOR WEEK OF MARCH 3 - 6



## Tuesday, 3 March

- 12:00 AM National Heroes Day Celebration
- 3:40 AM News Update
- 4:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 4:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 4:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 5:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:20 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 6:45 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 6:55 AM 2020 DG 5K Challenge
- 7:30 AM CNCF National Arts & Culture Awards Press Conference 2020
- 8:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
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- 6:55 PM 2020 DG 5K Challenge
- 7:30 PM CNCF National Arts & Culture Awards Press Conference 2020
- 8:00 PM 24th Annual Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast
- 10:15 PM News Update
- 10:35 PM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 10:55 PM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 11:05 PM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 11:40 PM News Update

## Wednesday, 4 March

- 12:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 12:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 12:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 1:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
- 2:00 AM News Update
- 2:20 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 2:45 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
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- 8:00 AM Public Accounts Committee Feb 6 2020 part 1 "Re-Air"
- 10:25 AM Public Accounts Committee Feb 6 2020 part 2 "Re-Air"
- 11:10 AM Public Accounts Committee Feb 7 2020 part 1 "Re-Air"
- 12:25 PM Public Accounts Committee Feb 6 2020 part 2 "Re-Air"
- 1:45 PM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 2:00 PM News Update
- 2:20 PM 2020 DG 5K Challenge Feb 18 2020
- 2:45 PM Speaker Series
- 3:40 PM News Update
- 4:00 PM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 4:20 PM Rosa Harris In Davos
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- 6:40 PM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 6:50 PM 2020 DG 5K Challenge
- 7:40 PM CNCF National Arts & Culture Awards Press Conference 2020
- 8:00 PM For the Record
- 10:00 PM News Update
- 10:20 PM 2020 DG 5K Challenge Feb 18 2020
- 10:40 PM Speaker Series
- 11:40 PM News Update

## Thursday, 5 March

- 12:00 AM National Heroes Day Celebration
- 3:40 AM News Update
- 4:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
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- 10:15 PM News Update
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- 10:55 PM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 11:05 PM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 11:40 PM News Update

## Friday, 6 March

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- 12:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 12:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
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# COMMUNITY NOTICE

## Reminder: Lobster season closes 1 March

... Continued story from page A1

The Department of Environment (DoE) also wishes to remind residents and visitors that the closed season for Nassau Grouper continues during their spawning season through 30 April and that the penalties for illegal take or possession are the same for that species.

For further information about the NCL, species protections, closed seasons or fishing rules, please contact the DoE at 949-8469 or email [Doe@gov.ky](mailto:Doe@gov.ky) or check our website at the following link: <http://doe.ky/conservation-law/marine-park-regulations-maps-and-conservation-laws/catch-limits/> for further information. 📍



### Invitation for Applications for the Operation of a Restaurant and Bar at Pedro St. James

The Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) invites interested entrepreneurs to tender proposals detailing the operation of a restaurant and bar at Pedro St. James in Savannah, one of the fastest growing residential areas in Grand Cayman. The concept for the restaurant and bar should include plans to provide dining and beverage services. The current enclosed dining area is approximately 1000 sq. ft. with 600 sq. ft. kitchen/service area.

**Tender proposal must include:**

- Culinary concept
- Restaurant design, using current dining facility or expansion
- Staffing and maintenance requirements
- Financial structure, including proposed lease payments and profit sharing-plan
- Identification of private funding sources and amount of anticipated capital investment
- Marketing strategy
- Implementation timetable
- Plans to integrate with Pedro St. James public mission of providing an authentic Caymanian experience

**Deadline for submission is Friday, 6th March 2020, before 5pm.**

Applications should be returned in a sealed envelope to:  
**Tourism Attraction Board, Pedro Castle Road  
 P.O. Box 305, Grand Cayman KY1-1501**


For more information, contact Mr. Patrick Thompson, Director, Tourism Attraction Board at [director@tab.ky](mailto:director@tab.ky) or by telephone at (345) 949-6999.



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# DEPUTY SPEAKER QUILTS AMID SPEAKER CONTROVERSY

... Continued story from page A1

'#metoo' condemning violence against women, Hon. Bertie Bush paid homage to the women of Cayman society.

"First and foremost, I am a father of 2 wonderful daughters, and a grandfather to 2 very precious granddaughters.

"I was raised to respect the role of women not only in our homes, but in our society as well. Caymanian women have always had a strong role to play; they were the backbone when our grandfathers and fathers went off to sea and through nature, remains our first nurturers and teachers.

"I cannot condone violence against anyone and as an elected leader, I certainly expect to be held to a higher, not lower standard, of conduct."

He noted that "the Speaker of the House has admitted that he will be seeking the help he needs, and I wish him and his family well in what will be a long and difficult process."

In further addressing the gravity of the current situation and his own political outlook, Hon. Bernie Bush made this declaration: "But with great power, comes great responsibility, and as a representative of the people I must always strive to lead by example.

"I therefore in good conscience cannot step up to fill a role that has been tainted by the weakness of the Unity Government to take the morally right, rather than, politically expedient course of action."

"I started my political service on the premise that my principles will not be for sale or rent and remaining in the post as Deputy Speaker, in view of the current circumstances, would very much go against my core values. I therefore humbly resign as Deputy Speaker with immediate effect."

In closing his statement, Hon. MLA Bernie Bush returned to the issue of violence with this plea:

"I ask that you all continue to pray for the victim and the many other victims who have the unfortunate experience of dealing with violence.

"I also ask that you also pray for the many perpetrators of violence so that they may turn from the errors of their ways and find the peace that they need. As a community, we are making strides in standing up for what is right."

The Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) continues its investigation into the incident in which assault allegations have been against Hon. Speaker McKeeva Bush.

# CAYMAN CRISIS CENTRE APPEAL

With debate surrounding violence against women at a peak, the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre(CICC) is intensifying its outreach effort.

In a news release, the organisation which campaigns against family and gender violence says as the territory's only women's shelter, they are committed to combating any form of violence, especially to the most vulnerable.

It suggests that an ongoing high-profile police investigation into assault allegations involving a senior politician might be a 'tipping point'.

The CICC says it welcomes the open dialogue and understands the outrage that any act of violence against another person should evoke.

Stressing that the Cayman Islands is not immune to the problem, it suggests that "the truth is, violence happens in hundreds, or perhaps even thousands of homes across these islands every year, in addition to incidents outside the home."

It reports that the RCIPS responded to 2,218 domestic violence-related calls and 747 calls related to child protection in 2018, adding that "there is no way of

knowing how many other assaults took place that were not reported."

In promoting its own efforts against gender violence, the CICC is urging the public to get involved in its ongoing fundraising campaigns, one of which is to "to build a bigger, purpose-built home of healing, that will accommodate both female and male victims of domestic violence."

The CICC also runs several other programs including its TAYA Lounge, providing support and counselling to at-risk children, conducts school and workplace training on keeping safe, as well as a drop-in clinic.



It urges anyone who has experienced or is at risk of violence to get in touch.

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



# AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS SOUGHT

The Honorable Alden McLaughlin, Premier of the Cayman Islands, stated that housing is the largest factor in the rising cost-of-living in the Cayman Islands, in his 2020/21 Budget Policy Statement at the Legislative Assembly in November 2019.

Despite initiatives with the National Housing Development Trust (NHDT), and the Government Guaranteed Home Assisted Mortgage (GGHAM) programme, as well as concessions on stamp duty fees for Caymanians and first-time home-owners, affordable housing for all residents remains a concern. The average cost of rental accommodation in Cayman has increased by 19.3 percent, as reported by the Economics and Statistics Office Consumer Price Index Report: April to June 2019, since the same quarter of 2018.

Minister for Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, Hon. Dwayne Seymour stated: "The significant rise to the cost of living and its effects on residents is a priority that government is working towards finding a solution for."

Echoing Mr. Seymour's statement, Minister for Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Hon. Joseph Hew added: "The more people spend on housing, the less they spend on goods and services. As our population grows, we have to examine sustainable solutions to avoid a housing bubble, while still being able to grow our economy."

Both Mr. Hew and Mr. Seymour are spearheading the initiative, and the Strategic Reform Implementations Unit (SRIU), within the Office of the Deputy Governor (ODG), is facilitating the process of finding solutions to these challenges. This process kicked off on 12 February, 2020 with a series of 'think-tank' and one-on-one sessions that engaged more than 50 stakeholders. SRIU Senior Advisor Matthew Hylton, shared that the purpose of the sessions "is to engage stakeholders to explore the factors behind the housing challenges, discuss ideas to help alleviate the problem, and suggest solutions towards affordable housing in the Cayman Islands."

Public sector engagement in the first phase of consultations included representation by key stakeholders including the Needs Assessment Unit, the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Planning. Representation from the private sector included those working in construction, development, consulting, utilities, finance, banking, and real estate.

Simon Watson, a partner at chartered surveyors and property consulting firm Charterland, signalled his backing of the think-tank sessions, saying: "We need to look at factors effecting housing issues from all angles in order to best determine a way forward. I am in full support of this great initiative and in helping to



► Representatives from the National Housing Development Trust, Workforce Opportunities Residency Cayman (WORC), Department of Children and Family Services, and the Cayman Islands Development Bank participated in a 'think-tank' session exploring key issues and potential solutions recently

find solutions to make housing more affordable."

After the initial series of think-tank sessions, Mr. Hylton advised that the SRIU will be moving onto the second phase of consultations. This next phase will involve detailed exploration of the key issues and potential solutions, identified in phase one sessions, in order to advance the work required to identify solutions that address the main affordable housing concerns.

The SRIU welcomes input from stakeholders whose work impacts housing, or is impacted by housing and accommodation, and those that would like to be part of the process of finding affordable housing solutions for the Cayman Islands. Interested persons are asked to contact Matthew Hylton at: Matthew.Hylton@gov.ky

For more information, please contact: Matthew Hylton, Senior Advisor, SRIU Matthew.Hylton@gov.ky

# MILLER PRESSES FOR NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST SPEAKER

The political fallout continues unabated in the wake of the assault controversy in which the Speaker of the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly, Hon. McKeeva Bush is embroiled.

Now, opposition MLA Hon. Ezzard Miller is pressing for a motion of no-confidence

against the Speaker to remove him from office.

Mr Bush has disclosed that he was taking an immediate leave of absence, although a duration was not indicated.

Mr Miller said he is not persuaded that Premier Alden McLaughlin and his government will initiate steps to re-

voke Speaker Bush's appointment.

He links his call for the removal of Speaker Mc Keeva Bush to the announcement on Thursday by the Deputy Speaker Hon. Bernie Bush that he had resigned from the second senior position in the LA.

According to Mr Miller, the MLA for North Side, the Cayman Islands is on the verge of a constitutional crisis.

He is calling on other opposition members to "join him in requesting a special meeting of the Legislative Assembly to elect a Deputy Speaker and debate a Motion of No Confidence in the Speaker."

Calling the situation urgent, he said "while there is no written Code of Conduct, there is certainly an implicit Code to which every Member subscribes."

Just a few days ago in light of the ongoing controversy, the Cayman Islands Commission for Standards in Public Life (CSPL) reiterated its call for "the finalisation and implementation of the Ministerial Code of Conduct, which it said it understands remains in draft form.

The onus is on MLAs to amend the existing code to broaden its scope.

However, Hon. MLA Miller refers to "our unwritten Code of Conduct" in making his argument for grounds to remove Speaker Bush.

"At the core of our unwritten Code of Conduct is a pledge to safeguard the respect necessary to maintaining the trust and confidence of the local population and the international community.

"When we damage that respect as has so obviously happened in this case, then our fidelity to the institution that we serve and represent must be challenged," he asserted.



► Mr Miller, the MLA for North Side

The North Side opposition member underlined his quest to remove the Speaker on the basis that despite Hon. McKee Bush's self-imposed leave of absence he was not convinced that the government would take the steps to revoke his appointment.

"It is obvious that the Speaker will not do the honourable thing and resign," he said in making his case a motion of no-confidence.

He also claimed that "it is also clear that the Premier and the Unity Government will not revoke the current Speaker's election."

In the meantime, Mr Miller commended ex-Deputy Speaker Bernie Bush for his service in the role and for what he described as "his bold and decisive action in tendering his resignation from the position of Deputy Speaker subsequent to the Speaker announcing that he is taking a leave of absence from the duties of Speakership."

Mr Miller is also concerned that the resignation of the Deputy Speaker leaves the Legislative Assembly with a procedural void.

He cited likely circumstances where the assembly would need to deal with urgent matters such as the passage of legislation to remove the Cayman Islands from the OECD blacklist.

To address such an eventuality, Mr. Miller invokes Section 72 of the Constitution which mandates the election of a Member other than a Minister to serve as Deputy Speaker.

"In addition to the meetings provided for

in Paragraph (1), the Presiding Officer [the Speaker] may, in his discretion, summon a meeting of the House and shall do so on the written requisition signed by not less than seven members, stating the terms of the motion or motions which they wish to debate. Notice of any such meeting shall be given to Members as soon as possible by the Clerk," the Hon. MLA for North Side he quoted.

To achieve the required quorum, Mr. Miller is inviting the Leader of the Opposition and his five colleagues to join him in requesting a special meeting of the Legislative Assembly.

He committed to "sign as the seventh Member in accordance with the stated provisions of the Standing Orders."

Mr Miller also indicated that this meeting of the House would be to debate two motions: the first, to elect a Deputy Speaker and, the second, to debate a Motion of No Confidence in the current Speaker the Hon. McKeeva Bush.

In a direct appeal to his fellow opposition MLAs, Mr Miller declared:

"As duly elected representatives of the People in the nineteen electoral districts, it is our responsibility to act in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and do the right thing for these beloved Island in safeguarding the reputation of the Legislative Assembly and of the Cayman Islands."

Meanwhile, amid the groundswell of outcry over the assault allegations involving the Speaker, a demonstration was planned outside the Government Administration Building in support of the woman said to have been the victim of the alleged abuse.

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre(CICC) has also stepped up its campaign supporting victims of violence, especially women and children.



## Lily Hope Folsom

May 28, 1928 — Jan. 27, 2020

Lily Hope Folsom passed away on January 27, 2020. She was born on May 28, 1928, in West Bay, Grand Cayman Islands to Captain Gerald Leigh and Mary A. Ebanks Bodden.



Lily was a teacher at the West Bay Public School in Grand Cayman for 8 years, and is fondly remembered by the many children she taught as the sweetest and best teacher they ever had. She was then transferred to the Cayman Island Government Treasury Department, and as a Civil Servant, worked there for 6 years.

In 1965, Lily and Jack Douglas Folsom were married and she moved to Walla Walla, where she has since then resided.

Lily was a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church, both in the place of her birth and in Walla Walla. She was also a Sunday School teacher. As a young woman, she was a member of the Christian Endeavor Association.

Lily loved children and raised her step-son, Peter Folsom, as her own. She and Jack also cared for Eric and Kyla Swenson while their parents worked. To them she is Grandma Lily and they are her grandchildren.

Lily loved flowers and enjoyed gardening, tending the roses which were her favorite flowers. She also enjoyed traveling and was an avid reader, mostly interested in the biographies of historic people. For many years, she was a volunteer for the Heart Fund.

Lily is survived by her son, Peter (Denice) of Walla Walla; step-daughter, Christine (Joe) Guagliano of Idaho; grandchildren, Benita Haeggquest, Trina Haeggquest, Michael (Alreen) Haeggquist and Paul (Tara) Haeggquest all of California; great-grandchildren, Christopher, Matthew, Kenny, Kya, Kaedren and Maya; great-great-grandson, Josiah; and her niece and nephew, Dana and Willie Henning of Florida. Lily is also survived by her extended family, Linda Swenson, her children Eric and Kyla and grandchildren Damien, Desmond, Danielle and Aiden to whom she has been grandma. Lily was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack; and her sisters, Genevieve Bodden, Rose Curtin, Belle Henning and Iris Henning.

A Funeral Service will be held at the Chapel of the Herring Funeral Home on Friday, February 21, 2020, at 12:00 p.m. with Reverend David Reed officiating.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association through the Herring Funeral Home, 315 W. Alder Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

Family and friends are invited to view and sign the online guestbook at [www.herringgroseclose.com](http://www.herringgroseclose.com).



► Speaker of the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly, Hon. McKeeva Bush



## 2019/20 National Youth Cook-Off Champions Selected

Bodden Town District Youth Cook-Off Champions Bradley McLaughlin and Joshua McLean will have the opportunity to represent the Cayman Islands at the Regional Caribbean Junior Dueling Challenge in Barbados this August, after being selected as the winners of the

National Youth Cook-off finals yesterday afternoon scoring 130 out of 160 points.

The competition, which took place at the 53rd Annual Agricultural Show, saw the top six district cook-off teams in the 16-25 age category, showcasing their skills to impress the panel of top culinary experts.

"I am quite impressed with the quality of dishes that were presented today," stated Ritz Carlton Grand Cayman Executive Chef and competition judge Chef Frederic Morineau "Congratulations to all of you for an amazing job."

"For the past two years, I had placed third in this competition. I am thrilled that Joshua and I have emerged today's winners," declared member of the winning team, Bradley McLaughlin.

George Town District Champions Kristofer Mason & Elizabeth Burey placed second scoring 126 points while UCCI's School of Hospitality's Jodianna Reid & Keimarnie Bogle emerged third place winners scoring 121 points.



► Judges Chef Jessica Moore, Chef Keith Griffith and Chef Frederic Morineau sample a dish during the National Youth Cook-off Finals

The other finalists were Team Clifton Hunter scoring 120 points, Team Kaibo (North Side District Champions) scoring 119 points and Team Bro Gad (West Bay District Champions) scoring 112 points.

Registration for the 2020/21 competition opens in September to all Cay-

manians and residents between ages 10-25, who have legally resided in the Cayman Islands for more than one year.

Contact YSU by telephone at 943-1127 or by email at james.myles@gov.ky for more information on how to register. 🌐



► Miss World Cayman Islands Jaci Patrick (L) Judge Chef Frederic Morineau (2nd L), Winning Coach Chef Jason Ao (3rd L), and Miss Teen Cayman Islands Ashley Gooden (R) all pose for a photo with members of the winning team Joshua McLean (4th L), Bradley McLaughlin (5th L)

## Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK (CIGOUK) assists GirlForce and 100Women in Finance with London trip

The Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK (CIGOUK) recently facilitated tours for a London visit by Kristina Ebanks and Asia Bush.

The two students won an essay competition organised by GirlForce, a mentoring group run by 100Women in Finance (Cayman).

The students travelled to London with their families and GirlForce 100 Mentors to attend a reception held at Buckingham Palace in celebration of 100 Women in Finance's (100WF) Investing in the Next Generation initiatives, hosted by HRH The Countess of Wessex, Global Ambassador of 100WF's Next Generation Initiatives.

The mentees' attendance at the reception was also part of a wider week of educational visits and tours facilitated by the Cayman Islands Government Office and 100WF.

The students, their mentors and parents joined a tour of the Houses of Westminster, where they learnt about the UK's government and political system, and visited areas of the House of Commons not usually accessible to the general public.

CIGOUK was able to organise an exclusive tour of the Palace of Westminster for Ms Ebanks, Ms Bush, their mothers and their GirlForce mentors.

Phillippa Knights, Assistant Representative and Government Student Liaison for Cayman Government in the UK, who organised the tour, said "It was a delight to host the GirlForce Group and be part of a cultural and informative tour of Parliament."



► GirlForce Group L-R - Mrs Katrina Ebanks, Suhina Lally, Jullian McDonnell (tour guide), Mrs Yeny Rego, parent, Asia Bush, Kristina Ebanks, Kate Kandiah, Aubrey Bodden - on London walking tour



► GirlForce Group at Palace of Westminster, Yeny Rego parent, Asia Bush, Suhina Lally, Renee Caudeiron, Katrina Ebanks, parent, Kristina Ebanks, Phillippa Knights, Assistant Representative

Cayman Connection UK (CCUK), a network for Caymanians overseas, can also organise city walking tours for visiting Caymanians and assisted in the organisation of a tour of the City of London with partner Joolz Guides. The tour showed the group the history of the City of London and stopped off at some iconic London venues.

Kristina Ebanks, GirlForce 100 mentee and essay winner, said of the tours "It was fascinating to see the Palace of Westminster; there are such impressive buildings and we learned a lot about UK politics. The city tour was great fun, we saw a lot of London. Our guide was very amusing, but it was cold!"

GirlForce Mentor and Maples Group associate Audrey Rankin commented

that she enjoyed the tours, finding them very educational, "especially for the mentees". Ms Rankin concluded by thanking the Cayman Islands Government Office and Cayman Connection UK for facilitating the tours.

Cayman Islands Representative André Ebanks said of the visit: "Our office was thrilled to help 100WF (Cayman) facilitate a London visit for two young female Caymanian high school students who wish to explore a career in financial services.

"Watching their excited faces, and each of their mothers' excited faces, before, during and after planned activities was a joy for our office team to see. It

was also evidence that positive exposure, however brief, can inspire a young person to aim high in their desired careers, and in the process learn how they can contribute to gender balance in the financial services industry." 🌐



► GirlForce Group on tour of Westminster



► GirlForce Group with L-R - Charles Parchment Deputy Representative, Suhina Lally, Renee Caudeiron, Kristina Ebanks, Katrina Ebanks, Yeny Rego, Asia Bush and Andre Ebanks, Cayman Islands Representative

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► (From left to right) SRC Client Tessa Terry poses proudly with a traditional rag rug alongside, Doona Wilson, Vocational Officer at SRC



► Visually impaired SRC Client Finita Ebanks does live demonstration of a traditional rag rug production alongside the Julie Kandler in charge of the Arts and Crafts at SRC

# Clients from Sunrise Adult Training Centre (SRC) display their creativity at Agricultural Show

Traditional rag rugs, hand-made bags, hats, and drawings were just a few of the beautiful arts and craft items that Sunrise clients Finita Ebanks, Tessa Terry, Elena Ow-Lam, and Alia Brown presented for sale during yesterday's staging of the 53rd Annual Agricultural Show.

SRC Director Kimberly Voaden was quite thrilled with her team's participation in the Agricultural Show for the first time in recent years.

"We are delighted that the Sunrise Adult Training Centre clients and staff were able to take part in this year's Agricultural Show. Experiences such as these benefit our clients by facilitating community inclusion, and this opportunity is a true highlight – our clients look forward to major events like the Agricultural Show every year! at a major event. Participating at the Show through running our stall also provides clients with essential life skills practice in money management and communication skills. Learning is best reinforced when it's embedded in a meaningful and purposeful activity, and today is a great chance for that to



► Sunrise was well represented by a dynamic team of clients and SRC staff seen here with their exhibit

happen, along with a whole lot of fun!"

Ms. Voaden further described her team's participation as a way to increase public aware-

ness about the SRC, its programs, and the skills and talents of its clients.

Previously, SRC clients have been able to sell their hand-

made crafts items at smaller events such as Farmers and Artisans Markets in Camana Bay, West Bay Farmer's Market, and Eco Fairs. During the past year, items have been sold through local shops such as the Book Nook, as well as the West Bay and Savannah locations of the

Cayman Pharmacy Group. Presently, the clients are busy making crafts and gifts for sale at SRC's upcoming annual concert in June 2020. Anyone interested in purchasing craft items, or ordering hand-made rag rugs are encouraged to call SRC at 949-3330. 📞



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► Some of the hand-made arts and crafts on display



► Some of the hand-made arts and crafts on display

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# GirlForce 100 Attend Buckingham Palace Reception

Members of GirlForce 100 recently travelled to London to attend a reception held at Buckingham Palace in celebration of 100 Women in Finance's (100WF) Investing in the Next Generation initiatives.

Winners of the 2019 GirlForce 100 Mentee Essay Competition, Asia Bush, former Clifton Hunter student and Kristina Ebanks, John Gray student, travelled to London with their families and GirlForce 100 mentors as honorary guests at the Buckingham Palace celebration, hosted by HRH The Countess of Wessex, Global Ambassador of 100WF's Next Generation Initiatives.

Attended by 350 active members of 100WF from around the world, the reception also included representatives from 100WF's corporate supporters, global program partner organisations and students who are part of Next Generation programs around the world.

At the reception, HRH The Countess of Wessex delivered welcome remarks and spoke briefly to the students. Amanda Pullinger, 100WF's CEO, addressed 100WF members, thanking them for their patronage and speaking to 100WF 30x40 Vision.

The mentees attendance at the reception was also part of a wider week of educational visits and sessions that included a visit to the offices of the Cayman Islands Government and private tours of the

Houses Westminster, Bloomberg London Headquarters, and the CIBC trading floor.

"The trip to London helped me understand the importance of the finance industry to the global economy. Watching how industrious and courageous the women of 100WF are has inspired me to work harder to achieve my educational goals. This trip to London has expanded my horizons and taught me to dream big. I would not have had this opportunity without GirlForce 100," said Asia Bush of her experience in London.

Kristina Ebanks said she found her experience in London very educational. "Visiting London was a once in a lifetime opportunity for me. I discovered so much about the city's rich history and culture. Since I was a young girl, I dreamt about continuing my education in England and now I am certain this is my path. Before becoming a mentee with GirlForce 100 I would have never had the confidence to make the journey to London. This experience has given me the confidence to step outside of my comfort zone and the tools I will need to succeed. I am so very grateful to GirlForce 100 for the opportunity."

Christina Bodden, a founding member of 100WF Cayman Islands and a 100 Women in Finance Global Association Board member, commented, "It was an honor to have the Cayman Islands and GirlForce 100 represented at the Buckingham Palace



Reception and within our Investing in the Next Generation initiatives. Our support of these young women, and the other GirlForce 100 mentees, furthers our work in developing future female leaders."

"For the past four years, we've delivered pre-career programming and mentorship to diverse, high potential Caymanian high school students. It's gratifying to see that 100WF's work - in the Cayman Islands and globally - makes such a difference in elevating young women's professional ambitions and pointing them toward careers in the finance industry."

GirlForce 100 is part of 100WF's Investing in the Next Generation Initiative which reaches, inspires and supports pre-career women of all backgrounds, to become the finance industry's leadership pipeline. This initiative is an important strategic element in the organisation's 30x40 Vision, in which women will perform 30% of the finance industry's investment and executive team roles by year 2040.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming part of GirlForce 100 please contact [GirlForce@100women.org](mailto:GirlForce@100women.org).

# CAYMAN OFFICER CADETS HIT HOME STRETCH

... Continued story from page A1

Hussani Samuels, who weighs 310lbs, in an over-the-shoulder fireman's carry.

The troops also learned about the use of tourniquets, casualty evacuation and the basics of CPR.

They were later taught how to erect a radio mast, used to boost signals in the field or as relay stations when other communications are knocked out by natural disasters like hurricanes.

O/C Kelly, a property manager and boxing coach from Bodden Town said: "The first aid lessons are very useful and it's something you can apply in the military and civilian life."

O/C Gabe Rabess added: "It's going very well. It's very enjoyable and we're settled into a routine and we're making new friends."

But he added the fast pace of military life took some adjustment.

O/C Rabess said: "Eating quickly is a problem. They are full days, so we don't have a lot of time, so we have to manage our time."

He and four other potential officers in the new Caymanian force are in Bermu-

da to undergo Recruit Camp with Bermudian soldiers in preparation for the British Army's prestigious officer training academy, Sandhurst.

O/C Rabess, 48, a police officer from George Town, said: "This has definitely been worthwhile. It's a must."

And he had some advice for the 50 soldiers and one more Officer Cadet who will undertake a similar Recruit Camp in Bermuda in the summer.

O/C Rabess said: "I would say expect the unexpected and they should work on their fitness and time management."

O/C Halston Farley, 35, from Bodden Town, a primary school teacher who has previous military experience in Barbados, added: "It's excellent. The training is geared towards being educational and purposeful. In my day, it wasn't like that."

He said the Cayman troops to follow should "do their research" on the military and the RBR "so they know what to expect and what they will be doing".

O/C Farley added: "They should grasp as much as they can in Cayman and work on their personal fitness and discipline."

O/C Jonassi Swaby, 26, an assistant aircraft technician from George Town and a former Cayman Cadet Force junior soldier, said: "It's really more a refresher course for us, but it's extremely worthwhile. The Royal Bermuda Regiment is very professional."

"Adapting to the differences between Cadets and the Regiment - and the colder climate - is a bit harder. But you adapt and overcome."

The three, together with brother and sister O/C Kelly and O/C Shandice Kelly, 27, are scheduled to join the private

soldiers from the RBR in a Passing Out Parade on Friday (FEB 28) before they return home.

Major Ben Beasley, the Commanding Officer designate of the RBR, said it was a pleasure to help prepare the Cayman five for their military careers.

Maj. Beasley added: "They have represented their country very well."

"The RBR has decades of experience in disaster relief and public order work and we are more than happy to share that with our sister Overseas Territories in the Caribbean."



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## CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

## Grenada's nutmegs adding spice to economy

Grenada's nutmeg trade is recovering after two devastating hurricanes in recent years.

Grenada used to produce around 2,000 tonnes of nutmeg a year with annual revenues of around \$13 million but between 2002 and 2004, in the aftermath of Hurricanes Emily and Ivan, 555,000 nutmeg trees - more than 90 per cent - were destroyed.

By 2011, nutmeg production was twice as high, but recovery was still less than 15 per cent of pre-hurricane volumes.

Grenada's average yield per hectare of nutmeg is significantly higher than the rest of the region, however, around 500,000 pounds of nutmeg are unharvested each year.

Technical improvements have also enabled farmers to overcome threats to the growth of the sector.

Although the crop is inherently "climate smart" in that it is relatively resistant to drought, it sequesters

carbon, and protects soil and watersheds in upland areas, nutmeg is also considered to be the most vulnerable spice to extreme weather. The tree takes four to six years to produce fruit and more than 20 years to reach full production, and given its shallow roots, it can be easily uprooted by wind.

Farmers are learning to adapt to these vulnerabilities by creating windbreaks and shelter belts using trees such as bamboo, mango and citrus in the path of damaging winds, to reduce wind erosion. Intercropping with cocoa, banana, coconuts and root crops has also been an effective measure for soil and root protection.

An alternative propagation method called grafting, introduced in Grenada in 2016, aimed at increasing nutmeg productivity by converting hundreds of male trees into female fruit bearing ones also holds immense promise for the sector. 🌱



► Grenada's nutmeg is world renowned

## Bermuda boasts zero homicides

Bermuda can claim to be one of the safest places in the Caribbean as it had no crime related deaths in 2019.

Ten years ago, Bermuda was facing a dire situation with multiple murders a year and rampant gang activity. Between 2009 and August 2017, Bermuda recorded 34 murders. Considering its population of around 66,000 people in only 21 square miles, it is a high statistic. During the height of the gun and gang violence era, there was a crisis.

The court system was overwhelmed with criminal cases and it became common place to require personnel from uniformed services to safeguard and protect courts during high profile murder and assault cases. The hospital and prisons were often placed on lock-down to protect the staff and people inside and armed police patrolling the streets.

"The fact that we had zero crime related deaths in 2019, and the fact that there has been a decrease of violence in our community in 2019 is in part a result of our singular focus on implementing programmes to reduce gang violence



► Bermuda had no crime related deaths in 2019

and anti-social behaviour as well as the dedicated efforts of the Gang Violence Reduction Team (GVRT), who continue to make positive influences with our at-risk population," said the Minister of National Security, Wayne M. Caines.

This was the first time in over 20 years that no homicides were recorded in Bermuda.

"This is a testament of the hard work of all involved, particularly the Bermuda Police Service," Caines said. "I commend Police Commissioner Stephen Corbishley and the dedicated men and women of the Bermuda Police Service. We have made significant progress in 10 years." 🌱

## BVI regatta is

The British Virgin Islands will soon hold its annual regatta.

Sailors and crew from around the world will descend on Tortola for the BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival from March 30 - April 5.

"The BVI is the mecca for sailing for three very important reasons," said Bob Phillips, chairman of the regatta. "With its 64 islands and rocks, you never run out of interesting and challenging places to sail. We have protected water in the Sir Francis Drake Channel where most of the racing is done, so even when trade winds are blowing their normal 15, 18, and 20 knots, you still have comfortable conditions for most sailors with the opportunity for ocean-like conditions if desired."

With all the choices that the BVI has with natural lay marks and islands, the Race Committee has multiple course possibilities to tap into, to mix up the racing each race day for the 800 competitors.

Race officers design courses on the water to match the tactical conditions,



► BVI's regatta will see 800 competitors

especially in shifting weather so that racing is always challenging.

"Not only is the racing superb, but for those who want to combine a race holiday with cruising before or after, our islands are unbelievably lush with anchorages every 20 minutes - it's just a comfortable, beautiful place to sail," Phillips said.

About 60 percent of the BVI Spring Regatta fleet comprises sailors who return year after year, excited for the racing conditions and the opportunity to meet new people as well as reunite with sailing friends. 🌱

## Minaj played mas in Trinidad

Trinidad-born rapper Nicki Minaj returned home for carnival 2020 last week.

Trinidad and Tobago's Carnival ran over Monday and Tuesday in Port-of-Spain ahead of Ash Wednesday.

The St James-born rapper, whose real name is Onika Tanya Maraj-Petty, posted a video on Instagram of her touching down with her husband in Trinidad on Monday. She captioned the video, which has over three million views: "My beautiful country" as soca singer Destra Garcia commented: "Welcome Home."

Minaj was in Trinidad for carnival in 2012 and filmed a music video there for "Pound the Alarm." Her new promotional single, 'Yikes' opened at No. 23 on the new Hot 100 and is the rap-



► Nicki Minaj in her Trinidad Carnival costume

per's 108th placement on the chart. It pushed her past Kanye West, who now stands at 107. 🌱

## St Lucia project protects children

The St Lucia Medical and Dental Association has launched an initiative aimed at protecting children from abuse in all its forms, be it verbal, physical or sexual.

"Protect Our Children" is done in collaboration with the Department of Health, Department Human Services, the Royal St Lucia Police Force, RISE Saint Lucia Inc. and other organisations. It will be a follow up to the "Good Touch/Bad Touch" programme which was launched in 2006 and aimed to sensitise children on the issue of inappropriate touching as well as equip medical practitioners, teachers and the public to recognise victims of abuse.

St Lucia is a signatory to the convention on the rights of the child, yet abuse of minors remain a pervasive issue, the negative implications of which be it



► St Lucia's Protect our Children project has launched

short or long term are seldomly highlighted.

Protect our Children aims to ensure that citizens are made aware that preventing childhood abuse and trauma augurs well for a better society with less crime and drug abuse. 🌱

## Dominica crowns new carnival queen

Dominica's 2020 Carnival Queen was crowned at its carnival last week and attributed her success in the competition to hard work. Savahnn James, 20, beat six other contestants to clinch the title at the Miss Dominica 2020 pageant.

James won the awards for Best Talent and Best Response to Question on her way to the crown at the Windsor Park Sports Stadium in Roseau.

"I am very excited; I am very happy, and I worked very hard," she said. "I was very strong; I was very confident in the way that I was answering so I think that gave me the edge."

With her platform 'Sustainable Living Through Renewable Energy', James said she plans to work with the environmental clubs to help bring awareness on the topic.

She advised any young women who plan to participate in the Miss Dominica pageant to "go for it."

Shannon Connor St Hilaire secured the second runner-up spot. She won Miss Photogenic, Best Costume, Best in Costume, and Best Evening Wear. The first runner-up position went to Primrose Angel David. She won Best Swim-



► Savahnn James is the new Dominica Carnival Queen

wear, Best in Swimwear and Best in Evening Wear.

Events Coordinator at the Dominica Festivals Committee Marva Williams said all the contestants were amazing and put on a great show. "The contestants were amazing," she said. 🌱

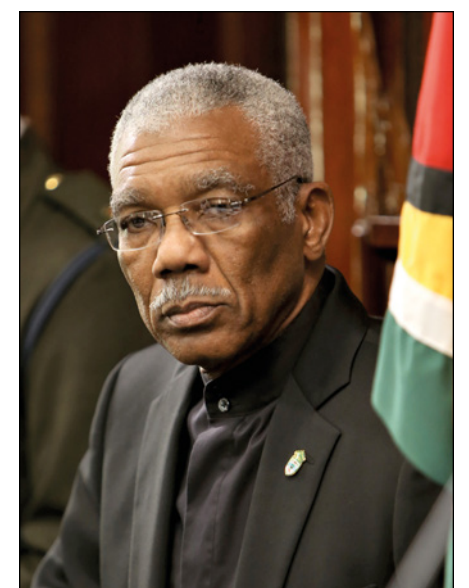
## Guyana celebrates 50th as republic

Guyana's President David Granger expressed satisfaction with the country's progress on its 50th anniversary as a republic. In an address to the nation, Granger said Guyanese are proud of the strides made by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member state. Guyana gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1966 and became a republic on Feb. 23, 1970.

Granger said that the 50th republic anniversary is an exciting and encouraging time for Guyanese who can look forward to a higher quality of life and it also marks the dawn of the "Decade of Development 2020-2029".

He noted that among the initiatives of his decade of the development plan is the provision of tuition-free education for eligible students at the University of Guyana, energy security, economic growth, constitutional reform and governance, the empowerment of youth development and deepening of international relations as well as development for the indigenous people.

"We live in a country that is enjoying high levels of growth and human



► Guyana's President David Granger

development and with accountable government and greater equality. Ours is one in which everyone will be able to enjoy equality before the law, education that is free, employment that is satisfying and an environment that is safe and healthy." 🌱

CROSSWORD

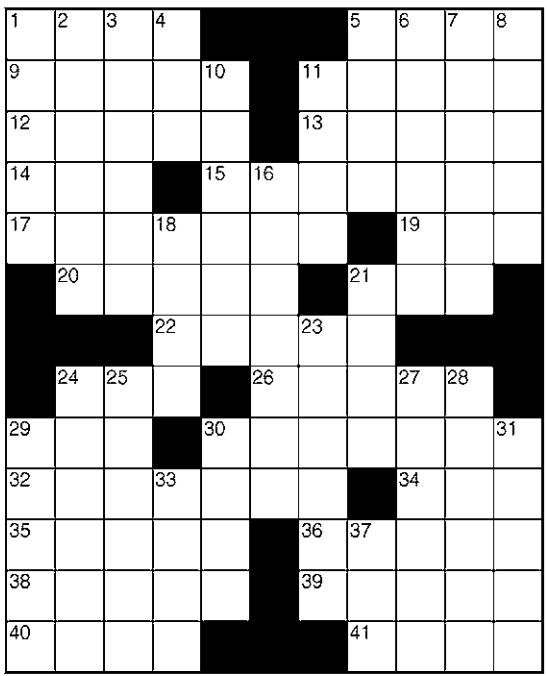
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 35 Love, in Lombardy
  - 1 Sighed word
  - 5 Mushroom heads
  - 9 "Id est," e.g.
  - 11 Tale's end, sometimes
  - 12 Heavier than heavy
  - 13 Sporting site
  - 14 Modern: Prefix
  - 15 Candidate of 2016
  - 17 Hog
  - 19 Crude home
  - 20 Wander off
  - 21 Boater or bowler
  - 22 Make blank
  - 24 Doc's charge
  - 26 Minimum amount
  - 29 Take in
  - 30 Blue-veined cheese
  - 32 Super-man's home
  - 34 Fish eggs
- DOWN**
- 1 By the way
  - 2 Record companies
  - 3 Went to a restaurant
  - 4 Bro's kin
  - 5 Hokey stuff
  - 6 Singer Franklin
  - 7 Go well
  - 8 Incline of
  - 10 Sweet drink
  - 11 Primary
  - 16 Serving a
  - 18 Apple or pear
  - 21 Get better
  - 23 Fishing nets
  - 24 French mathematician
  - 25 Pal of Pooh
  - 27 Layers
  - 28 Sounded a horn
  - 29 Flat fish
  - 30 Proofing note
  - 31 Must have
  - 33 Debate group
  - 37 Pool unit



Yesterday's answer

- 7 Go well
- 8 Incline of
- 10 Sweet drink
- 11 Primary
- 16 Serving a
- 18 Apple or pear
- 21 Get better
- 23 Fishing nets
- 24 French mathematician
- 25 Pal of Pooh
- 27 Layers
- 28 Sounded a horn
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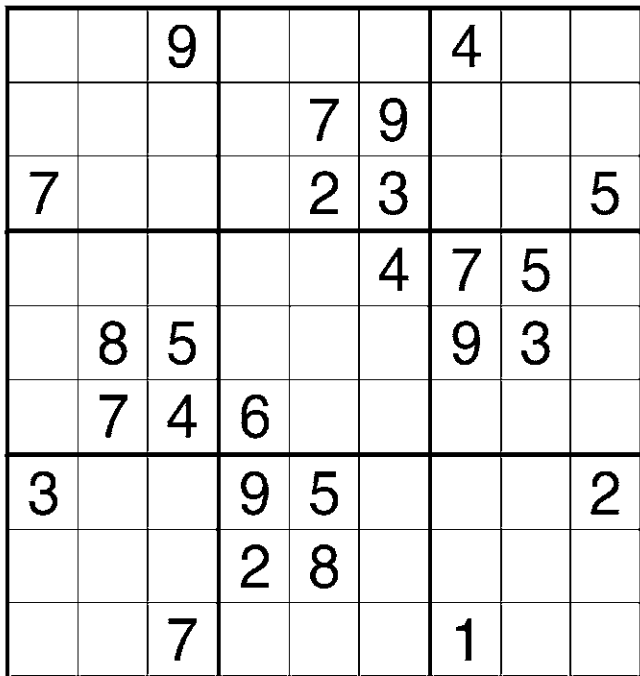
1-16

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

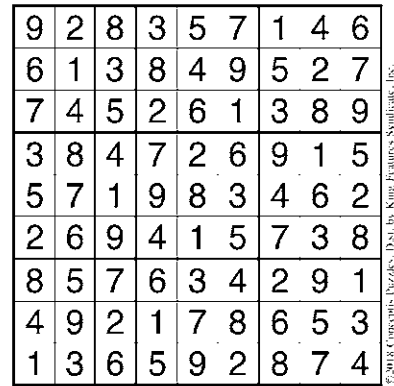
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/24

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Word Search

- Airport
- Alien
- Amadeus
- Annie
- Arthur
- Bambi
- Cabaret
- Casablanca
- Charade
- Dracula
- Dumbo
- Exodus
- Fantasia
- Gaslight
- Gigi
- Grease
- Jaws
- Psycho
- Rocky
- Shane
- Stagecoach
- Superman
- Tootsie
- Vertigo



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



CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



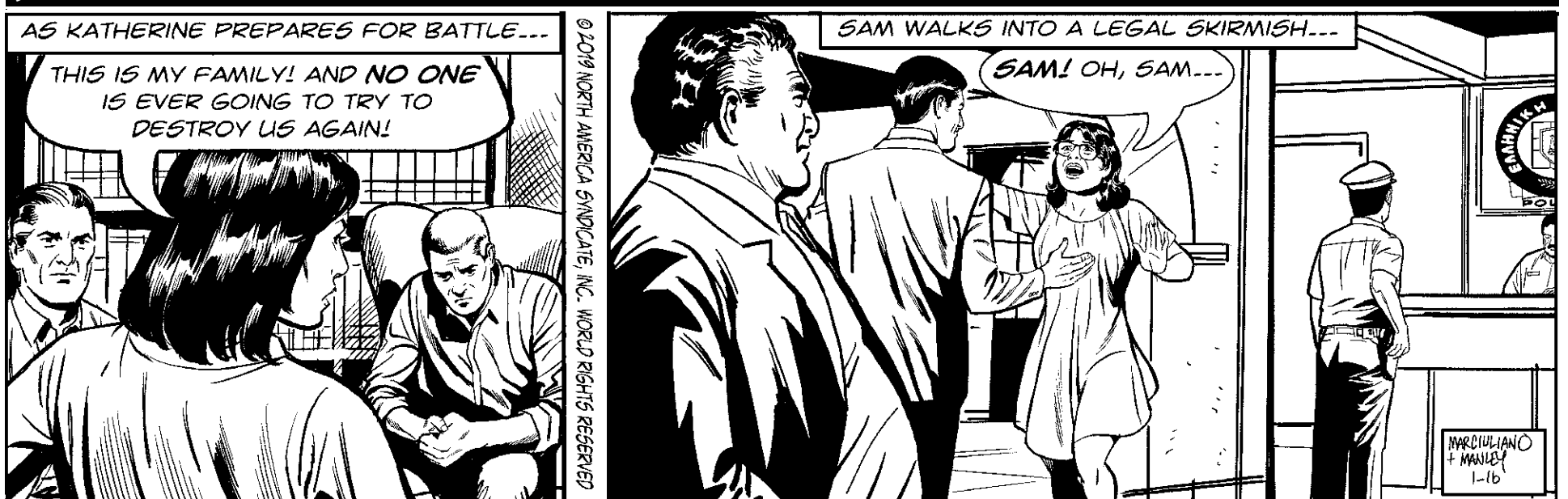
THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





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