

Caymanian Times

Monday, March 9, 2020 Issue No 514

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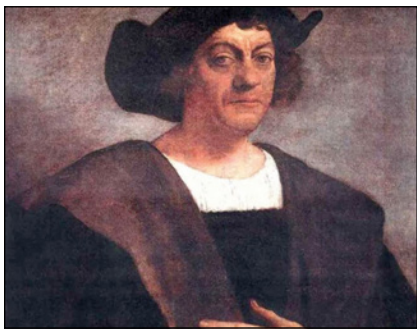
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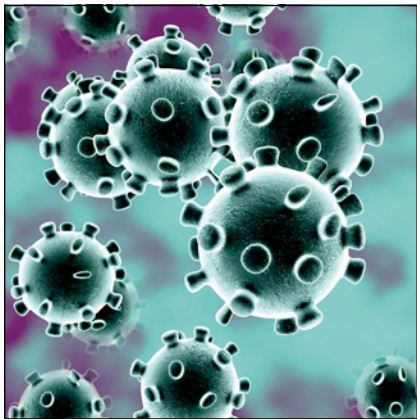
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Coronavirus in the Caribbean can now be monitored on an app

Tourism reports continued successes into 2020

Notwithstanding unprecedented challenges to the tourism market in the dawn of 2020, a positive trend of more visitors and greater occupancy rates continues as January stayover arrivals to the Cayman Islands went up by nearly four percent according to the Department of Tourism.

"Our continued marketing efforts show strong signs of growth in this new decade," said Minister of Tourism, the Honorable Moses Kirkconnell.

In terms of numbers of specific individual guest arrivals, the increase was 1,486 more than January 2019 totaling out to 42,851 for the month. The figures presented are according to data sourced from Cayman Islands Customs and Border Patrol.

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Clifton Hunter careers fair broadening horizons

By Lindsey Turnbull



► Michael Myles from Inspire Cayman Training Centre talks with students

Students about to take some crucial steps in their career path were able to glean information on a wide array of careers last week at Clifton Hunter High School's annual careers fair.

The fair, targeting students in year 9 to 11, attracted around 25 companies and businesses across the public and private sector, all keen to share information with students about working in their field.

Christine Campbell, careers advisor at Clifton Hunter High School said the annual career fair targeted students either selecting subject options, those who were looking at career pathways and the next steps for their education pursuits and also those wrapping up

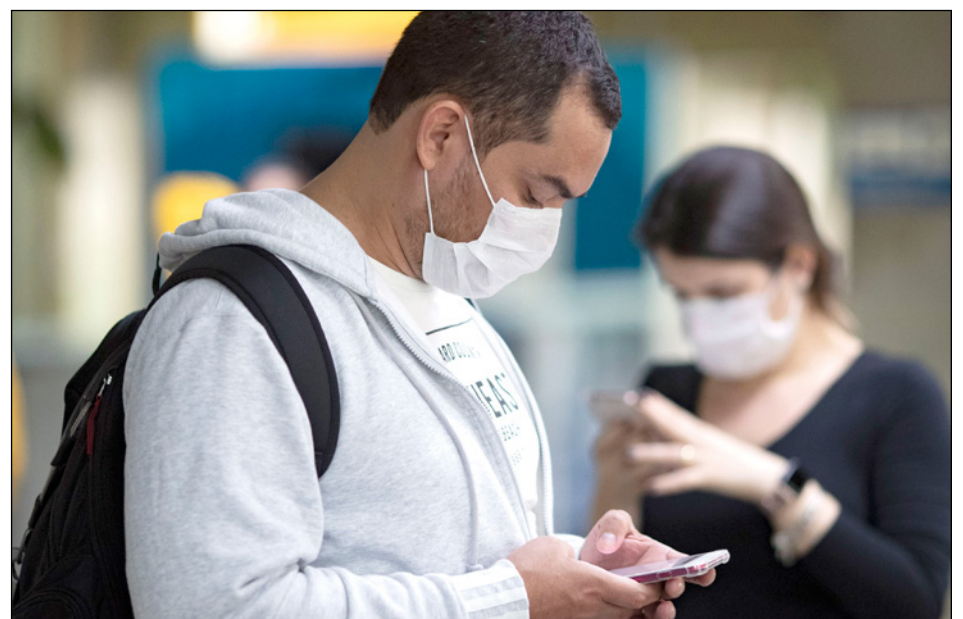
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COVID-19: Cayman Islands Prepared as Regional Cases Confirmed

The Ministry of Health, Public Health Department and the management of the Health Services Authority (HSA) are in a high state of preparedness for the coronavirus (COVID-19). As of 5 March 2020, there are no cases in the Cayman Islands.

The opening of the Cayman Islands National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) on Wednesday, 4 March brought together Government and community partners to prepare for the possibility of the virus reaching Cayman. NEOC is coordinating efforts including health, economic continuity, uniformed and support services and utilities. Teams are meeting at least once daily to share information and take key decisions.

... Continued story on page A3



Caymanian Times

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A COURSE CORRECTION ON COLUMBUS

There's an enduring calypso that puts the legacy of Christopher Columbus in the Caribbean in sharp context.

'Columbus Lied', sang the late Tobago-born calypso maestro Shadow.

There's also an equally enduring roots reggae classic, of the genre known as conscious reggae, which unapologetically declares, "Christopher Columbus was a damn, blasted liar."

Jamaican reggae icon Burning Spear is responsible for that unflattering assessment of the Italian-born explorer who laid claims to lands he'd 'discovered' for the Spanish throne.

Those songs from the 70s and early 80s still resonate for their social awakening and challenges to hitherto accepted historical accounts.

They also provided a soundtrack for formal and informal national debate and scrutinising academic challenges of material which had formed the foundation for teaching Caribbean history.

Christopher Columbus' chance encounter and subsequent subjugation of native peoples he quite literally stumbled upon set off a chain reaction of events that resulted in the Caribbean as it's known today.

Those native peoples, whom Columbus erroneously labelled 'Indians' - a label which stuck as have the names of places he tagged on - didn't survive the way the misnomers have.

Many of those Columbian name-tags largely endure, except in a few instances, Guyana comes to mind.

History cannot be erased but the documentation of events recorded as history for posterity can be reviewed, revisited, edited, and the record corrected.

And there are signs of that happening; a course alteration that recognises Christopher Columbus for his daring as an explorer, but putting into its correct perspective his place in the annals of global and in particular Caribbean history.

Celebrating Columbus continues to divide opinion.

Columbus Day October 12th, is a federal holiday in the United States.

But what started as a veneration of the explorer is increasingly being questioned and clouded in controversy.

One oft-overlooked fact is that Christopher Columbus never set foot on



► Christopher Columbus

what's known as the United States of America.

The closest he got was in traversing part of the coastline of Central America on his fourth voyage.

As observation of Columbus' arrival in 'the Americas' is shifting more towards a recognition of the native peoples, his tainted legacy has become increasingly off-putting with many states choosing to dedicate the day in honour of the native peoples.

In Belize for example, the original Columbus Day holiday is now observed as Pan-American Day a celebration of the migration of indigenous cultural groups from the Yucatan into Belize.

In the Dominican Republic where Columbus had set up his Caribbean base, the capital Santo Domingo is adorned with an unmissable statue of the explorer.

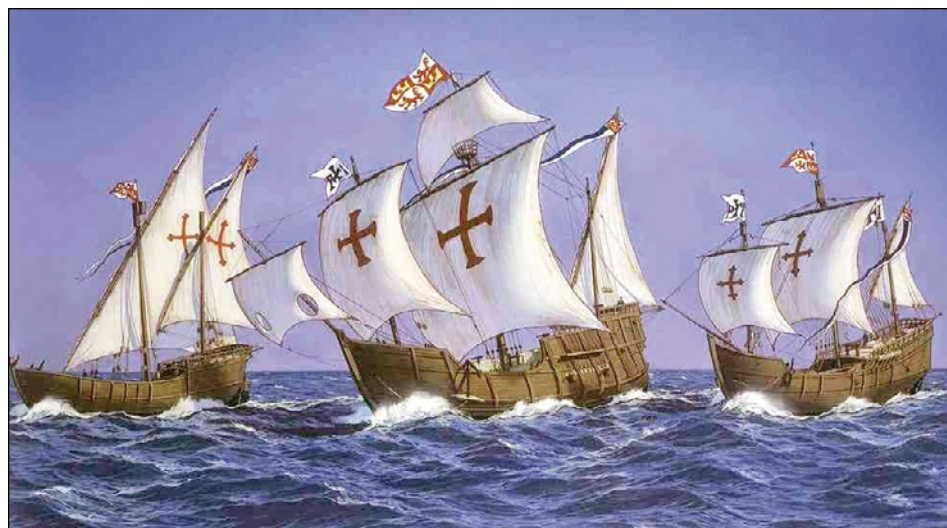
Claims by the Dominican Republic that Columbus is buried in the country has been rejected by Spain which says the explorers remains are interred in Seville.

October 12th is not marked as a holiday in the Dominican Republic.

And while the date is marked in the Bahamas, where Columbus made landfall thinking that he had reached the East Indies, it's for a completely different reason.

October 12th is Bahamas National Heroes' Day. Established in 2013, it replaces Discovery Day also then known as Columbus Day.

The Columbus course-correction continues. 🌐



► Christopher Columbus ships

Rudolph W Douglas

I, Rudolph W Douglas is no longer responsible for my wife Aneita Lois Douglas (Buddha) for any debts she has incurred or may incur.



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CIGTV GUIDE



FOR WEEK OF MARCH 10 - 13

Tuesday, 10 March

- 12:00 AM 24th Annual Parliamentary
- 2:15 AM News Update
- 2:35 AM Married to the sea Nat Gallery 22 Feb 2020
- 3:40 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 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
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COVID-19: Cayman Islands Prepared as Regional Cases Confirmed

... Continued story from page A1

While there are no confirmed local cases, the Public Health Department continues to work with international health partners, to monitor and prepare for the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

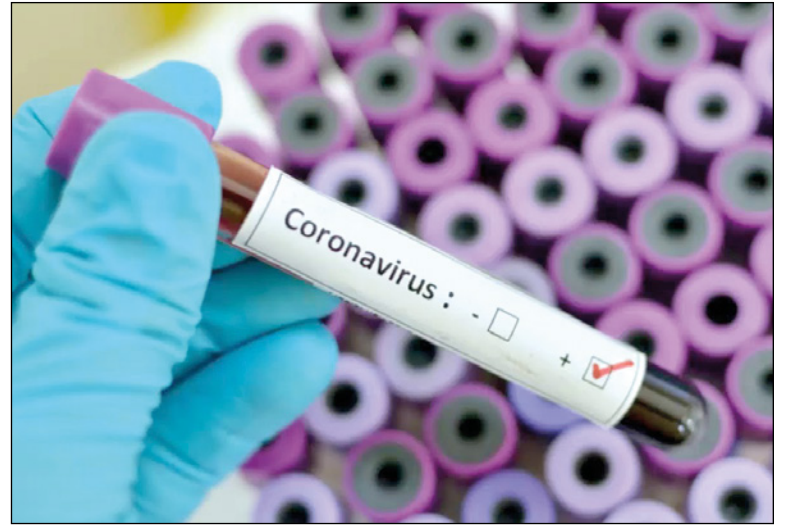
Chief Medical Officer, Dr. John Lee comments: "With confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Florida, the Dominican Republic and St. Barts concerns among local residents are real".

He adds: "As more cases are confirmed worldwide, the overall risk of the coronavirus (COVID-19) coming to the Cayman Islands is high and the situation is evolving rapidly. Continuing preventative measures such as washing hands regularly and avoiding others with respiratory illnesses are essential. Increase your distance from people to a minimum of three feet, and preferably six feet. Having a family and household plan can also help to slow the spread of the disease."

Dr. Lee concludes: "A review of our plans to protect residents and visitors is an ongoing process. We remain vigilant while working with stakeholders to ensure our borders are protected and that any imported case is managed efficiently to minimise the impact."

According to Dr. Samuel Williams-Rodriguez, Director of Primary Health Care / Medical Officer of Health, patients with clinical criteria to be tested (based on the case definition provided by the WHO/ PAHO) will have their samples collected and send to CARPHA for testing. The HSA is in the process of arranging testing for the COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands

International dialogue continues to take place. On Sunday, 1 March, Hon. Roy McTaggart, Minister for Finance and Eco-



nomie Development, and other senior government and health officials, represented the Cayman Islands Government via video link at a Special Emergency Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government (CARICOM). The meeting was convened to discuss regional preparations and response to COVID-19.

In response to the high level of preparedness and response to COVID-19 by on-island stakeholders, Minister for Health, Hon. Dwayne Seymour, emphasises that since the number of cases continues to grow globally, persons must remain prepared.

"It is essential that we separate fact from fiction when it comes to the constantly evolving information about the virus. Please visit hsa.ky for the facts. I am grateful to the experts from the Ministry of Health, Public Health Department, the HSA, Hazard Management Cayman Islands and the wider civil service who ensure the community remains safe and prepared. I urge you to continue to look out for each other and to prepare thoroughly, while guarding

against stigma and panic," Minister Seymour stresses.

Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, thanked the Ministry of Health for their leadership and expressed confidence in the steps that the Cayman Islands had taken to prepare for COVID-19.

"We understand that members of the public have many questions around the possibility that this virus reaches Cayman. I assure them that our country has world-class structures in place encompassing both public health and hazard management. With experts meeting daily, planning for every eventuality and with Government's full support behind them, I am confident that we will be able to achieve the best possible outcome when it comes to protecting the Cayman Islands and its people."

Minister for Financial Services and Home Affairs, Hon. Tara Rivers says: "HMCI is well equipped and stand-ready to coordinate a multi-agency national response. Past experiences have stress-tested our approach and our agencies' ability to respond."

"The financial services industry is following its business continuity plans, in order to ensure that services continue," Minister Rivers adds.

Minister for Tourism, Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, notes that coronavirus poses unique challenges for the local tourism industry. The Ministry and its agencies are continuing to work closely with public health and with security officials to protect the well-being of visitors and residents. "The Ministry of Tourism is in close contact with cruise line partners and are adhering to established medical protocols with respect to the landing of cruise ships and passengers. Similar measures also apply to stayover visitors."

For more information on COVID-19 and for guidance on how to best protect your household, please visit www.hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus or contact the Public Health Department on 244-2621. Details of the steps that Government is taking to combat the disease are also available from www.gov.ky/coronavirus.

No hiccups here: Tourism reports continued successes into 2020

... Continued story from page A1

The United States represented the greatest visitor count overall, seconded by Canada, next was Europe and then Latin America. International market summaries demonstrated the highest growth escalation in arrivals were from Canada, followed by Europe, and Latin America.

"My tourism teams are dedicated to providing tangible benefits through tour-

ism driven economic activity for our islands and our people," added Kirkconnell.

As far as "room stock" or what is known more informally in industry jargon as "heads in beds," for hotels, guest houses, and apartments, the numbers were up in every category: bed places or capacity, beds, bedrooms, and number of units occupied.

For more information and detailed arrival statistics visit: www.visitcaymanislands.com/statistics



► Photo Art courtesy of Cayman Islands Department of Tourism

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The Cayman Islands Port Authority wishes to advise the public that a false voice message has been circulating on Whatsapp which alleges that Government is not allowing any containers to come into the island.

The Port Authority would like to reassure the public that there is no cause for concern. The Port Authority discharged Caribe Navigator last night and Tropic Jade is scheduled for the evening of March 6. Caribe Mariner is scheduled for discharge for the evening of March 7, 2020.

Joseph Woods
Acting Port Director

To keep updated on reliable and factual information the public is strongly encouraged to refer to official government sources and social media channels.

For general information on the coronavirus visit www.gov.ky/coronavirus or for public health specific information visit www.hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus and listen to news broadcasts on Radio Cayman.

The Economics and Statistics Office

Labour Force Survey 2019

Starting Sunday, 10th March 2019

The 2019 Spring Labour Force Survey (LFS) will be conducted by the Economics and Statistics Office (ESO) starting Sunday, 10th March 2019.

The LFS collects data on the employed and unemployed persons, as well as those who are not in the labour force.

Trained interviewers, with identification cards from the ESO will visit 1,500 randomly selected households in all districts.

The interviews are confidential in accordance with the Statistics Law (2016 Revision). No individual data will be published or disclosed. Survey data are exempt from Freedom of Information requests.

For further information on any aspect of the survey, please contact the **ESO hotline 516-3329.**



► Organising Committee Chair Ms Barbara Conolly (second left), LA staff led by Clerk of the LA, Ms Zena Merren-Chin (third left) with civil service members of local Toastmasters who trained the youth



► Youth Parliament participants get pointers in debating skills from civil service members of the local Toastmasters (Photos by Bina Mani, GIS)

Youth Parliamentarians Getting Ready

Twenty five of Cayman Islands' youth are once again in the thick of gearing up for conducting proceedings at the Legislative Assembly for a whole day this Commonwealth Day, Monday, 9 March 2020.

The 16 girls and nine boys represent Layman Scott High School on Cayman Brac, John Gray and Clifton Hunter government high schools, Triple C School, Wesleyan Christian Academy, St. Ignatius Catholic School, Grace Christian Academy, Cayman Islands Further Education Centre (CIFEC) as well as the University College of the Cayman Islands.

Again this year, law firm Harneys have generously funded the Youth Parliament in their effort to promote young people's education and engagement in civic matters in the Cayman Islands. Harney's Partner Mr. Nick Hoffman handed over a cheque to the students during their preparatory meetings.

From October 2019, a month after their school term began, the students have been hard at work learning the ropes about all aspects of the Legislative Assembly. Notably these included proceedings that take place in the Chambers, getting expert lectures from Opposition Leader Hon. Arden McLean, Opposition MLA Mr. Ezzard Miller and First Legislative Counsel Ms Cheryl Neblett.

In addition to the over one dozen lectures, the participants also had a chance to sit in on an active Finance Committee sitting to understand yet another important aspect of government in action.

During the lectures, the prospective parliamentarians learnt about the roles of the Speaker, Clerk, Serjeant-at-Arms, the Premier and Ministers, Backbench and Opposition Members.

Additionally, they learnt about other House business including the purpose of Private Member Motions and how they are brought to the House; the types of Government Motions that are brought; the purpose of Parliamentary Questions and how bills are drafted, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Ms Zena Merren-Chin explained.

They also got tips and exercises for honing the all-important debating skills from representatives from the local Toastmaster's Club, who were involved with the training of youth parliamentarians for the first time, along with representatives of the Truman Bodden Law School and the Cayman Islands Youth Assembly.

Once they had acquired the knowledge, the participants chose their roles as Government or Opposition members, positions they will take on in the Youth Parliament including Speaker, Premier, Clerk and Serjeant.



► Principal donor law firm Harneys' Partner Mr. Nick Hoffman hands over a cheque to fund the Youth Parliament, in the presence of Organising Committee Chair Ms Barbara Conolly (first, left)

Next, they finalised their topics and worked on researching and drafting their speeches. "We provided them with resource persons from government departments and the private sector who are knowledgeable about the topics that are chosen," the Clerk noted.

Throughout the process, the participants have been receiving advice and encouragement from the Youth Parliament Organising Committee, comprising MLA and Committee Chair, Ms Bar-

bara Conolly, MLAs Mr. David Wight, Mr. Alva Suckoo, Mr. Kenneth Bryan and Mr. Bernie Bush.

"We are looking forward to another scintillating morning of debates and cogent views from our youth parliamentarians on meaningful topics chosen by them on this Commonwealth Day," Committee Chair Ms Conolly commented. "The event has now become a much anticipated activity in our legislative calendar over the years."

Clifton Hunter careers fair broadening horizons

... Continued story from page A1

preparing for their external exams and also preparing for work experience.

"We have about 25 companies participating, so that's a very good turnout and they are representative of different sectors and occupations, inclusive of vocational options," she advised. "Our students have been briefed and are engaging positively with the company representatives, they are posing questions about the different career options available to them, as well as summer internships and work experience placements that may be available. Also, students want to find out about scholarships opportunities that these companies are offering to them which are specifically useful to our year 11s who are looking at tertiary studies when they move on to year 12 and onwards."

Ms Campbell said the school had created a database of the types of companies with whom their students wished to work and also ensured that students were exposed to a broader cross section of career pathways that they might not have thought about before.

"We have companies that are always of interest to our students, for example in the healthcare sector - students are always keen to learn about that. We also have companies in the allied healthcare sector, in which students might not know much. We want students to be exposed to these different kinds of careers options that they would not ordinarily seek out or have any kind of understanding about. Those kinds of allied sectors include professions in occupational therapy and physiotherapy."

Most students did not know that these kinds of careers were available to them and that they were a good alternative to traditional jobs within the medical



► Christine Campbell, careers advisor with Clifton Hunter High School



► The healthcare sector booths were popular with students

profession, such as medicine which, she said, might take a long while to achieve and might not be ideal professions within the healthcare sector.

"We have a number of other sectors, for example law, which is always highly subscribed, but we also have accounting - we definitely wanted that career represented. We also have hospitality and tourism and we have a few hotels on board this year as well," she advised.

Red Sail Sports were also represented, a popular choice for many students, she said.

"We have a broad spread and we definitely want students to not only have information about careers that they are interested in, but we want to stretch them a little bit and expose them to career options they might not have considered that might suit their interests or might just be a bright idea for something they could pursue later on," she advised.

Companies need to do more

North Side MLA Ezzard Miller was at the event and said he liked to support the careers fair.

"One of the things that students need is careers guidance," he said, "so I support this event every year. I'm really pleased to see the number of companies that are here, but what we have to do is now transfer this into actual recruitment, not only recruitment from high school but recruitment following them through college,

getting them into summer jobs and getting them into their organisations when they come back."

Mr Miller said that returning graduates complained to him that, while their fellow graduates elsewhere in the world were being head-hunted locally, Caymanian students could not get a foot in the door when they come back with their qualifications.

"When they come back to Cayman with their qualifications and present their CVs to these organisations they are given absolutely no encouragement," he said.

Connections between students and companies should be continuous from school and equally so companies should come to the graduation ceremonies where they should be able to identify the high flyers, Mr Miller said.

"But it's too easy to get a work permit and when these young graduates go to these organisations and say, do you have any vacancies, they tell them the truth: they don't have any vacancies but they have 150 work permits. My position is, that's 150 vacancies for qualified Caymanians," Mr Miller said.

New hope for young people

Michael Myles, owner and operator of Inspire Cayman Training Centre, had a booth at the careers fair. He said his business had been in the works for the last two years. They opened their doors in June last year, and had their first cohort start in August. They have a fully-fledged PADI certification programme and were internationally accredited and locally accredited by the Cayman government. They offered at least 15 different programmes, accred-

ited and all internationally approved, he said.

"What we are doing is looking at getting our young people into career paths," Mr Myles said. "We have to stop talking about jobs today because they no longer exist. Cayman is now more competitive: we have 30,000 work permits and counting, 15,000 of those are just in the trade and vocational sectors. We don't develop our people for that. so, we are looking at jobs within the tourism industry, the construction industry, the dive industry and the automotive industry. All of these are dominated by ex-pats."

Mr Myles said they could train young people in all of those industries and he could start them from 13 years old.

"What we are not doing is giving young people real credentials, so by the time they are leaving high school they have a high school leaving certificate, but what is that going to get them when they are competing against someone who is a qualified electrician?" he stated.

All his students started off on an introductory course called core curriculum. Once they had completed that, they could then focus on a specified career path, such as carpentry or plumbing, for example. Core curriculum, he said, was the jump start. Similarly, students were exposed to all segments of the dive sector, not just becoming a dive master but helping them to explore jobs such as work as a rescue diver with the emergency services. Mr Myles said he wanted to equip Cayman's young people with the business acumen to help them run their own business.

"What I'm trying to do is help these youngsters own a piece of the rock," he confirmed.



► Student Brianna Livingston with the DOTs Tunisia Barnes

CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV) FACT SHEET

What is coronavirus?

- Coronaviruses (CoV) comprise large family of viruses that cause illnesses ranging from the common to cold to more severe diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).
- Coronaviruses are zoonotic, which means they are transmitted between animals and humans. An example of this is SARS-CoV, where the disease was transmitted from civet cats to humans.
- The novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a new strain of corona virus that has not been previously identified in humans.

What are the symptoms?

- Common symptoms include respiratory symptoms:
 - fever
 - cough
 - shortness of breath
 - breathing difficulties
- In **severe** cases of coronavirus can cause:
 - pneumonia
 - severe acute respiratory syndrome
 - kidney failure

How soon do symptoms occur?

- Symptoms occur **2-10 days** after a person has been exposed.

What is the global, regional, and local burden of coronavirus?

- The coronavirus outbreak was first reported in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China since December 21, 2019. There are currently several countries with the World Health Organization regions that have reported confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV. These include China, Singapore, Japan, France, Germany, Australia, Canada, and the United States.

- Presently it is estimated that there over 9,000* cases of 2019-nCoV globally. There have been over 200* deaths caused by the coronavirus. The World Health Organization has declared a public health emergency of international concern over the recent outbreak.

- In the region of the Americas, the United States has reported six (6)* confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV and Canada has reported three (3)* confirmed cases.

- There have been no confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV in the Cayman Islands.

*These figures are subject to change as the number of confirmed cases increase. For the latest information on 2019-nCoV please refer to <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>.

Is there a vaccine against coronavirus?

- Currently there is no vaccine to protect against 2019-nCoV. When a disease is new, it can take up to a few years for a new vaccine to be developed.

How is coronavirus spread?

- While this strain of coronavirus is new, it appears to spread in a similar manner to that of other coronaviruses such as SARS, through cough and sneeze droplets.

- This occurs when an infected person sneezes or coughs directly on another person. The droplets are then transferred when the healthy person touches their nose or mouth.

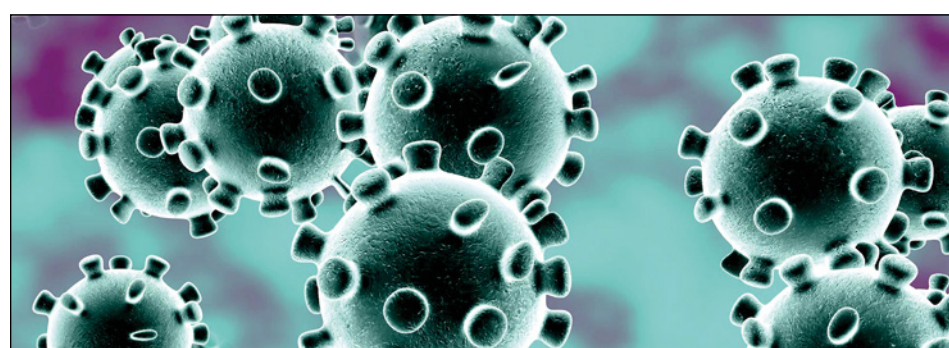
- A person can also become ill if they touch surfaces where droplets have landed such as tables, chairs and door handles, then touch their nose or mouth. This route is dependent on the length of time the virus is able to survive on the surface.

- Some reports indicate that people who have not yet developed symptoms may also be able to infect others.

- It is important to remember coronaviruses are also able spread to people who come in contact with infected animals and livestock.

How do I reduce the risk of coronavirus infection?

- Although we do not have 2019-nCoV cases in the Cayman Islands, there is a probability of returning residents or visitors from affected areas being infected with coronavirus. This is why it is recommended to practice infection control measures such as:
 - frequent hand cleansing with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer



Coronavirus Prevention Tip

1

frequently **cleanse hands** with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer

Coronavirus Prevention Tip

2

cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing

Coronavirus Prevention Tip

3

avoid close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections

Coronavirus Prevention Tip

4

avoid travel if you have a fever, cough or flu-like symptoms

► Coronavirus Prevention Tips

- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections, and
- avoiding unprotected contact with farm or wild animals.

How is coronavirus diagnosed?

- Doctors suspect the possibility of coronavirus based on clinical symptoms and signs and **one** of the following criteria:

- The person who is experiencing a severe acute respiratory infection has recently travelled to a country that has reported a confirmed case of 2019-nCoV within the **past 14 days**.

- The person who is experiencing a severe acute respiratory infection has been in contact with another ill person who has travelled to a country that has reported a confirmed case of 2019-nCoV within the **past 14 days**.

- The person who is experiencing a severe acute respiratory infection has visited or worked in a live animal market in Wuhan, China within the past 14 days.

- Confirmation obtained through a blood test. This form of testing is done by the Caribbean Public Health Agency, which takes five to ten days.

What should I do if I have coronavirus?

- While there is no specific treatment for 2019-nCoV, if you have recently travelled to a country experiencing an outbreak of coronavirus and develop symptoms suggestive of respiratory illness, seek medical attention immediately. Ensure that you provide your doctor with your recent travel history and symptoms.

- Wear a mask if available.
- Do not travel while you are ill, if possible.
- Treatment will be administered based upon your symptoms.
- Laboratory confirmation is not essential for the management of coronavirus cases.

For further information:
Contact the Public Health Department 244-2621

For medical attention:
Contact the Cayman Islands Health Services Accident and Emergency Unit 244-2794 or 244-2792 📞

GET THE FACTS

For the latest, accurate information on the coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit

HSA.ky/Coronavirus

CHINA CORONAVIRUS

The symptoms of 2019-nCoV and how it spreads

COVID-19 Countries on Watch

If you have returned from the below countries within the last 14 days, please contact the Public Health Department immediately if you have a cough, fever or shortness of breath on 244-2621 / 244-2561

People should avoid all but essential travel to countries where there appears to be extensive in country transmission of COVID-19. Please note, this list is subject to change as further updates are received.

POLICE NEWS

25-Year-Old-Man Succumbs to Injuries from East End Collision

Just after 4AM on Tuesday, 25 February, police and other emergency services were dispatched by the 9-1-1 Communication Centre to Sea View Road in East End, where it was reported that a white Ford Ranger pickup truck and an injured man had been observed in the bushes in the High Rock area. The incident appeared to have been a single vehicle collision.

The man was transported by ambulance to the hospital and admitted for ongoing treatment of what were found to be serious injuries.

Yesterday morning, 4 March, police were informed that the man involved in the collision, 25-year-old Michael McField of North Side, succumbed to his

injuries and was pronounced dead at the Cayman Islands Hospital. The RCIPS would like to extend condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.

The collision is an ongoing police investigation and officers are asking anyone with information relative to the collision to call the Traffic Management Unit at 649-6254, during business hours.

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

Anton Bodden Drive, Bodden Town will be Closed during Morning Commute Hours

As a result of traffic congestion and other safety concerns raised by members of the public, police will be closing Anton Bodden Drive between 5:30AM and 7:30AM, Mondays to Fridays start-

ing tomorrow morning Thursday 5 March. The RCIPS thanks the public for their continued cooperation and apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause.

West Bay Police Station Temporary Relocation to Regatta Office Park

As of Monday, 9 March, the West Bay Police Station will be operating temporarily out of the Regatta Office Park near Governor's Square. The station will be located on the second floor of the Windward 3 Building (Unit 210A), off the Esterley Tibbetts Highway and just southwest of the Cost-U-Less roundabout, with the main entrance facing the Highway. Entry to this new location from West Bay Road can be gained via Lime Tree Bay Avenue.

The relocation is taking place due to repairs that will be conducted on the current West Bay Police Station build-

ing, and will remain in effect until the repairs are completed. All services currently provided at the West Bay Police Station will continue to be provided at the new location at Regatta, and continue to be accessible to the public 24-hours a day.

During this temporary relocation the phone numbers for the West Bay Police Station will remain the same.

For more information, call the West Bay Police Station at 949-3999, visit our website at www.rcips.ky or download the RCIPS mobile app on the Google Play or Apple App stores.

Collision Involving Public Bus on Shedden Road

Shortly after 10:20AM on Wednesday 4 March, officers responded to a report of a two vehicle collision on Shedden Road, in the vicinity of Printer Way, involving a Public Bus and a Hyundai i10. The bus had pulled off to the roadside when the Hyundai collided with the rear

of it. All 12 passengers of the bus, and the drivers of both vehicles, were transported to the Cayman Islands Hospital for treatment for minor injuries and released.

The matter is currently under police investigation.

Opposition Group parts with Kenneth Bryan

The refusal by MLA, Kenneth Bryan to support the Opposition members' call for a special meeting of the Legislative Assembly to discuss the implications of the Speaker of The House's statement issued on Feb 24th, 2020 and his subsequent public statements which are not in accord with the majority of Opposition, has led to Members of the Official Opposition, parting ways with the Member for George Town Central.

Standing Orders allow seven members to call a meeting of the Legislative Assembly, to ensure that the minority has a voice. The decision by the Member for George Town Central to not support the call for a special

session of the Legislature, is viewed by the Opposition as an obstruction to the Opposition's ability to do one aspect of its job, to ensure that the integrity of the People's House remains intact. By blocking the Opposition's ability to request a special meeting, the country is deprived of the opportunity to hear from the very people they elected to represent them.

The matters to be discussed are serious ones: Firstly, there is the matter of the conduct of the Speaker of the House, an admission of his own impairment, and where he passed out in a public place. Secondly, there is the subsequent unilateral grant of leave to the Speaker by the Premier which may or may

not be constitutionally permissible. And lastly, perhaps most importantly, we have an opportunity to set the record straight as to what we the Members of the Legislative Assembly believe to be right and what the public should expect from their elected representatives.

This most recent incident involving the Speaker of the House, yet another in a long list of public incidents which embarrass the country, was a tipping point in the local community. The community is incensed with the



► Kenneth Bryan, MLA



► Hon. V. Arden McLean, Leader of the Opposition

double standard where too often people in positions of power and privilege in this community operate to a different set of rules and appear to get away with things the average citizen could never get away with.

If the Government is comfortable leaving the public with this view, we as Opposition certainly are not.

MLA, Chris Saunders, Bodden Town West said: "My mother started her career as a waitress at the then Royal Palm Hotel and for many years had to shrug off abuse from drunken patrons because she had five children to feed and educate. For me to stay silent and not to speak up for women in particular but all hospitality workers in general, knowing the sacrifices my mother made on behalf of my sisters and I, would be a betrayal to my mother, my conscience and my constituents who value the role of women in our society."

MLA, Alva Suckoo said: "The decision by Kenneth Bryan demonstrates that he does not hold everyone to the same exacting standards. When the Speaker deemed that I had broken the rules by raising an issue relating to China Harbour, I was duly suspended from the House where I was elected to serve the people of Newlands, on a motion moved by the Premier himself and voted on by members of his Government. I was suspended for doing my job, yet, we have a Speaker of the House, who has twice in recent memory engaged in conduct that was unbecoming of any member of a civil society, much less a political leader of our country and believes that a short temporary leave of absence is deemed acceptable. When have we become so morally corrupt that we are prepared to disregard our primary

responsibilities and the core values of protecting the rights of those who are already disadvantaged?"

MLA, Bernie Bush added: "When I resigned as Deputy Speaker, I made it clear that as a father and a grandfather, I could not in good conscience stay in a role tainted by the actions of the Speaker and the inaction of his Unity government colleagues. Kenneth's decision not to support a debate on the issue, underscores the very issue the community is upset about and flies in the face of widespread public condemnation on the issue and trivializes the right of women, and men to expect to work in a safe environment."

The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, V. Arden McLean, noted that part of his role is to seek consensus within the Opposition Group. He added: "Being a representative and an advocate of the people requires very strong personalities and as such there will be differences and compromises will have to be made. The majority of members on the Opposition bench have made it clear that there will be a zero tolerance towards certain behaviors and anyone who condones such behaviors. Unfortunately, this is one difference that many members would not compromise on and indicated to me that they will no longer caucus with the member from George Town Central."

The Opposition Group wishes the member from George Town Central well and will continue their efforts to ensure that everyone in the Cayman Islands can work in a peaceful environment and not be exposed to certain behaviors or conduct.

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CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Grenada target for Indians seeking to get to US

Grenada is seeing an influx of wealthy Indians looking to accelerate the process to live in the United States.

With the EB-5 immigrant investor visa to the US getting more expensive, wealthy Indians are turning to Grenada as a route to their US citizenship dreams.

Immigration lawyers said, in the past three months, interest in the Grenada Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme has increased from India, as the Caribbean country has an investment visa treaty with the US. Mark Davies, the global chairman of immigration law firm Davies & Associates, said there has been a definite drop in interest towards the EB-5 programme after the US changed the investment guidelines under it.

From November 2019, the minimum investment required under the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program had been raised \$500,000 to \$900,000 from in a

Targeted Employment Area (TEA) and from \$1 million to \$1.8 million in non-TEAs. "This, coupled with a longer wait time for Indians because of an annual country cap of 700, has led people to explore other options," said Davies.

His firm is currently helping process a few applications for the Grenada CBI programme. There are a lot more enquiries which are likely to convert into applications over time, he said. Under the Grenada CBI programme, the applicant must make a \$220,000 investment in a government-approved real estate project. What makes Grenada an attractive destination is that it has an E2 visa treaty with the US, wherein a Grenadian can apply for US citizenship and usually get it within three months. A US E-2 visa allows an investor to live and do business in the US in exchange for a minimum investment of \$150,000. [f](#)



► Grenada is potential gateway to US citizenship

Virus app launches for Caribbean

A smartphone app to monitor viruses has launched in Mexico which is relevant to the Caribbean region.

Go.Data, a platform that informs of virus cases and contact data during an outbreak, was rolled out last week in Mexico City by the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), and the Ministry of Health of Mexico.

The tool, which can be used by public health professionals involved in outbreak response, allows for the collection of case data, including on laboratory results, hospitalizations and other variables, and enables the control and monitoring of contacts. It also includes info on transmission and the generation of epidemiological curves.

"Go.Data is a powerful tool that will enable countries of the region to investigate cases and outbreaks, and to manage contacts relating to the



► Coronavirus in the Caribbean can now be monitored on an app

COVID-19 public health emergency of international concern," said Sylvain Aldighieri, Deputy Director of the Department of Health Emergencies at PAHO/WHO and Incident Manager for COVID-19.

The tool has been used since 2019 in response to the Ebola outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda, as well as for the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh. WHO is now working with its member states and partners to make Go.Data available for the response to COVID-19. [f](#)

Bermudan chefs serve Cultural Bites

Two Bermudian chefs, fresh off their collaboration with international culinary star Eric Adjepong, have launched a weekly culinary experience to carry forward January's sell-out Restaurant Weeks dinner.

After teaming up with Adjepong of Bravo TV's Top Chef fame to host Bermuda's Culture & Heritage Dinner at Fourways Restaurant, Jaalen Steede and Raeven White of Hamilton's Berym Eats Café are serving up a new food-and-wine experience for local and visiting foodies.

Kicking off last week at the Chancery Lane venue, 'Cultural Bites' is an infusion of popular courses from the history-inspired dinner, served canape-style with freshly-harvested foods and locally-sourced ingredients, the Bermuda Tourism Authority said.

Steede said: "We want to create a food happy hour focusing on the best dishes from our cultural collaboration with Chef Eric."



► Bermudan chefs Jaalen Steede and Raeven White

He added: "What January's dinner showed us is that people look for new and unique food experiences that tell Bermuda's stories. As Berym Eats Café is a place that connects people to Bermudian-inspired dishes, we will transform our space into an energetic atmosphere all about our food culture."

During its ninth winter-season edition of Restaurant Weeks, the BTA worked with restaurant partners, farmers and local entrepreneurs to re-imagine and deliver new food experiences in unique locations throughout the island. [f](#)

Antigua features in Hollywood blockbuster

Antigua and Barbuda is celebrating the cinema release of 'Wendy', the latest film by award-winning director Benh Zeitlin that was partially filmed in the twin-island destination.

Wendy is an American fantasy drama film, intended to be a re-imagining of JM Barrie's 'Peter Pan', that takes place in an exciting and breath-taking new setting. Premiered at Sundance, in this new version, Wendy and her brothers are whisked away from their humdrum life by a mysterious boy named Peter. There they discover a wild new world, one without grown-ups and suspended in time on an island.

Scenes for Wendy were filmed at Hell's Gate and various locations in Antigua and Barbuda, and Peter Pan is played by Yashua Mack, an Antiguan child with no prior acting experience. Discovered by Benh Zeitlin, Yashua's performance is hailed by critics and plays a key part of the



► Wendy is giving Antigua worldwide exposure

transcendent experience of the film. Mack was chosen out of nearly 2,000 children. Zeitlin said that he chose Mack because of his innate ability to find the character. "Yashua lived in a Rastafari camp in Antigua. A lot of places you see in the film are their playground," he said. "Seeing this little boy drop into character was one of the most shocking things I've ever experienced in my life. He just inherently understood how to perform." He also said that he wanted to retell the story to address the original story's racist overtones. [f](#)

Koffee to perform in Dominica

Grammy award-winning artist Koffee, whose real name is Mikayla Simpson, will be in Dominica for the first time to perform during one of the island's major events, 'Carnival Gopwell' Volume 2.

It's at Windsor Park Sports Stadium Forecourt, Roseau on April 25. Organizer of the event, Dane 'Danejahdane' Smalling made the announcement.

The 20-year-old Jamaican reggae star has only been around for a couple of years but she is already hugely popular for songs "Toast", "Rapture", "Haffi Make it" and "Blazin". She created history by becoming the youngest reggae act and first female artist to win the Grammy for "Best Reggae Album" last year.

Smalling said: "Koffee is coming in and not to do playback; Koffee is coming in with her band." He said there will be no playback for that night; all the artistes will be performing with their live band.



► Koffee makes her Dominican debut next month

"Koffee just won the Grammy; she has only performed one place in the Eastern Caribbean which is Antigua. She has never been to the French Antilles and Dominica is getting her even before Barbados," Smalling stated. "She is going to Barbados the day after, to perform at the Reggae on the Hill event." [f](#)

Bahamas lays solar panels after hurricane

The Bahamas government is erecting micro-grids on Abaco as the country continues rehabilitation following the passage of Hurricane Dorian last September that left damage estimated at US\$3.4 billion.

The government feels the urgency of implementing solar power across the archipelago is necessary to better recover from hurricanes that have intensified through the effects of climate change.

When Hurricane Dorian, a Category 5 storm, swept through the islands last September, killing more than 70 peo-



► The Bahamas is laying solar panels in Abaco

ple, Abaco and Grand Bahama were severely affected with many areas on Abaco still without power six months later. [f](#)

Half Moon adds Eclipse to estate

Jamaica's world-renowned Half Moon Resort has opened the luxury offshoot Eclipse.

First developed in 1954 as a winter getaway for 16 North American families, who built a collection of beachside cottages on a former sugar cane estate, Half Moon in Montego Bay has grown into a landmark property in the Caribbean - one that's hosted generations of royalty, celebrities, and loyal guests on its now 400 scenic acres. The legendary (and still family-owned) spot introduced a new chapter in its storied history with the March 1 opening of Eclipse at Half Moon, that offers its own dedicated accommodations, facilities, and amenities,



► Eclipse's lobby is luxurious

as well as access to all that the property at large has to offer.

Managed by Salamander Hotels & Resorts (whose other properties include the Salamander Resort & Spa in Virginia's horse- and wine-country), Half Moon recognised the need to upgrade its offerings which it has done in style. [f](#)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Showy parrot
- 6 Valley obscurers
- 11 In the know
- 12 Shenani-gan
- 13 Nautilus skipper
- 15 Retina setting
- 16 Scathing review
- 17 Tabby or Spot
- 18 Mint output
- 20 Classical language
- 23 Stylishly quaint
- 27 Pinnacle
- 28 Incline
- 29 Trait carriers
- 31 Candle sight
- 32 Constellation makeup
- 34 Spots on TV
- 37 Memorable time
- 38 Masseur's place
- 41 Pequod skipper
- 44 Figure of speech
- 45 Exact copy
- 46 Calendar items
- 47 Winter weather

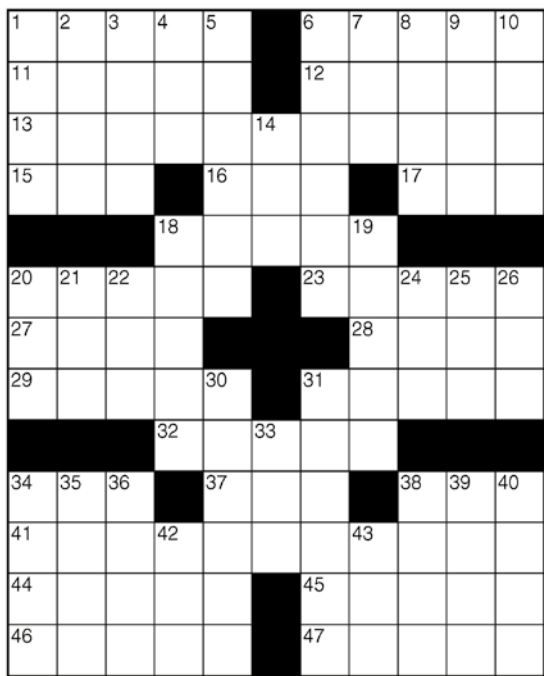
DOWN

- 1 Spiked club
- 2 Not at home
- 3 Seaside setting
- 4 Museum focus
- 5 Derringer or dagger
- 6 Mode
- 7 Tourist stop
- 8 Dance unit
- 9 Clock reading
- 10 Edinburgh native
- 14 McKellen of "X-Men"
- 18 Blends
- 19 Cries
- 20 Fall behind
- 21 Clumsy galoot



Yesterday's answer

- 22 Hamilton's bill
- 24 Brewed beverage
- 25 Ewe's mate
- 26 Afternoon hour
- 30 Prepares veggies
- 31 Marseilles money, before euros
- 33 "Exodus" hero
- 34 Corrosive stuff
- 35 Ernst's art
- 36 Rotisserie part
- 38 Loafer, for one
- 39 Glass section
- 40 Aid illegally
- 42 Bunion spot
- 43 Each and every



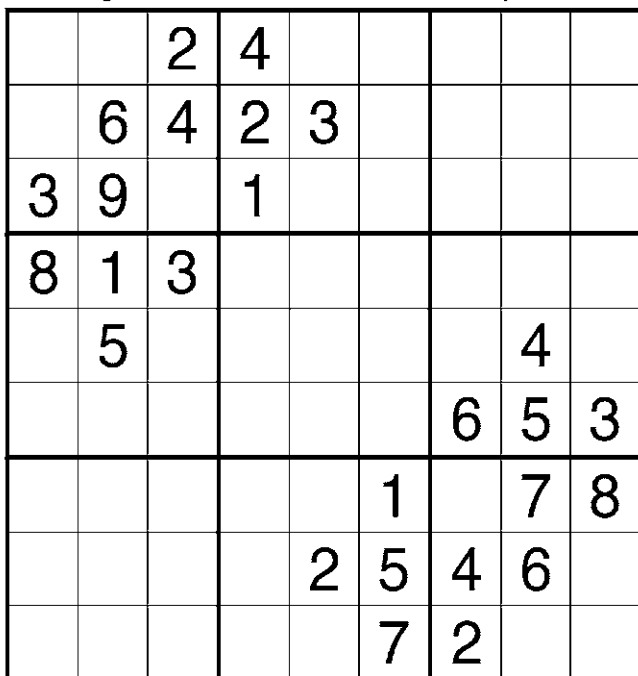
1-22

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

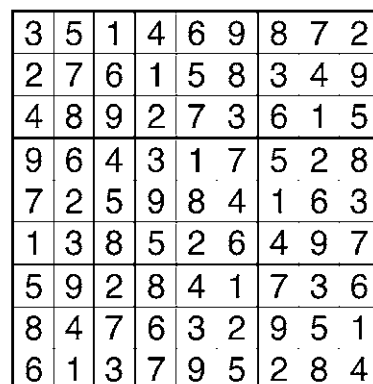
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

11/29

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★★

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Word Search

- Al dente
- Baste
- Blanch
- Boil
- Braise
- Broil
- Confit
- Crouton
- Daube
- Dressing
- Fillet
- Fondue
- Garnish
- Glaze
- Gratin
- Julienne
- Marinade
- Poach
- Prove
- Reduce
- Roast
- Seasoning
- Simmer
- Stock
- Tartare
- Truss
- Whip

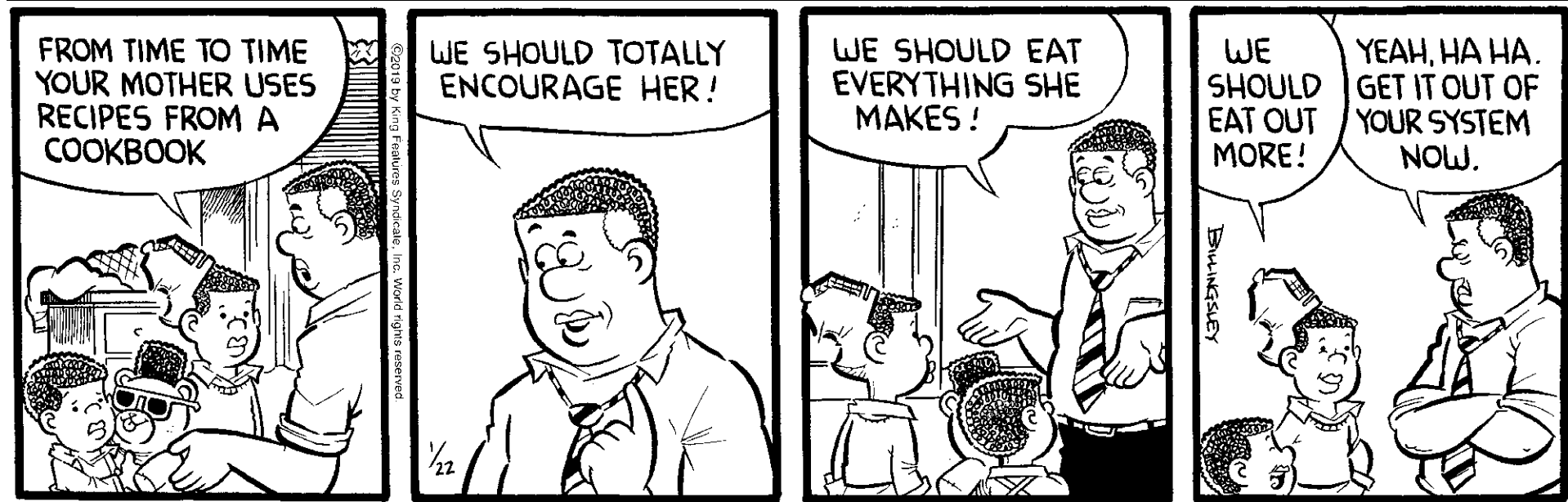


Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions – forward, back, up, down and diagonally.



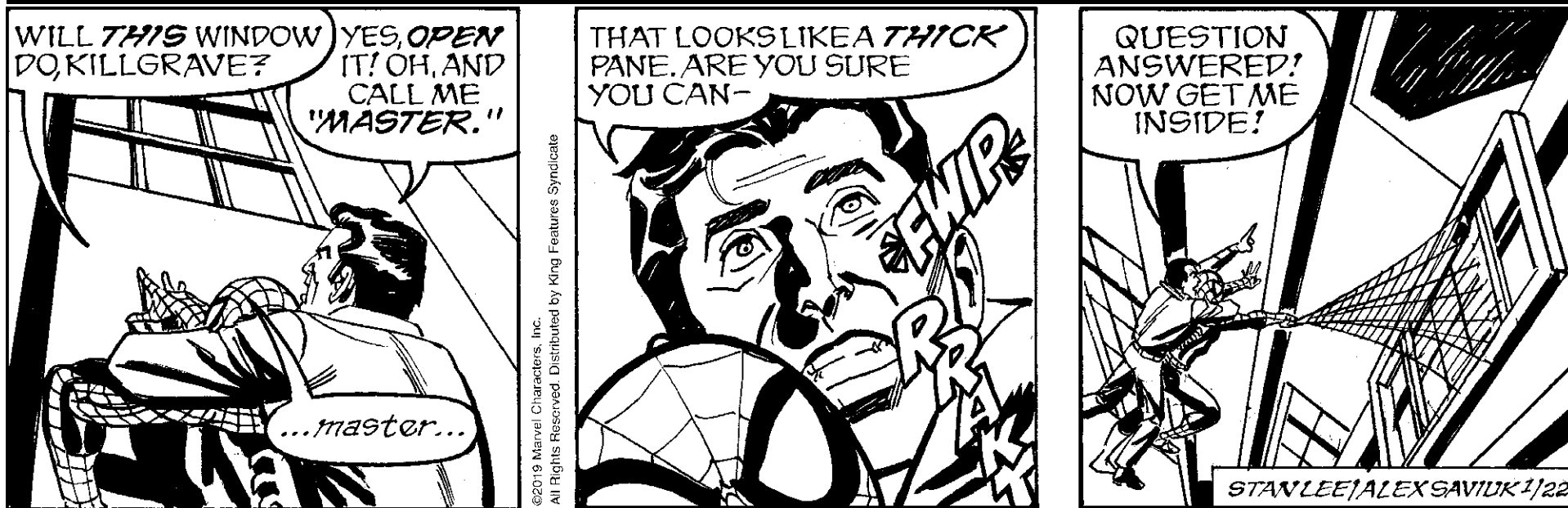
CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



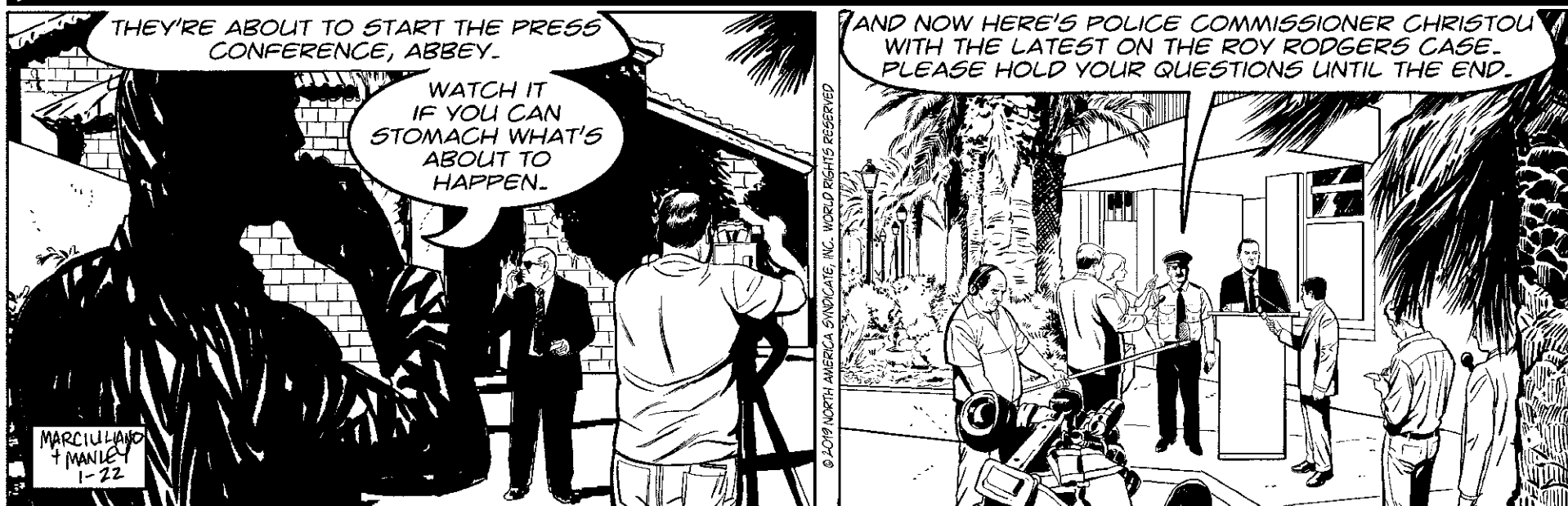
THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





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FRONT PAGE

Annual Turtle Release a Success

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

13 Nov, 2019

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"Be Informed" theme for series of port meetings

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

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Government to Hold Public Meetings on Cruise Berthing

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

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Government commits to beneficial ownership register

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