

Caymanian Times

Monday, March 11, 2019 Issue No 347

www.caymaniantimes.ky



Complimentary

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	● POLICE NEWS — A3	● LOCAL NEWS — A3	● BUSINESS — A7	● WORLD WATCH — B1
				
	98 Speeding tickets issued	DOT launches new Advertising Campaign	Sterling Global Financial Bridge Finances 357-Room Grand Hyatt	King of Pop may lose his crown

52nd Agriculture show better than ever

The Agriculture show keeps getting better every year. Agriculture of all kinds is on the rise in Cayman right now, as the market for healthy, fresh, locally-grown food continues to grow. People are finding out that local fruits are just better tasting than imported food, which is subjected to more chemicals and isn't nearly so fresh.

There were wonderful displays of produce under the big main tent, and lots of visitors had come early to pick the cream of the crop. There were huge breadfruit like pumpkins, cassava, Sweet potato, and coconuts on one stall. It was piled high. Then on another stall there were huge tomatoes the size of oranges, and peppers, from the red hot scotch bonnets to the season peppers. There were traditional Caribbean vegetables for greens, as well as lettuces that looked like the crowns of jolly green giants. Then there were fruits – star apples, naseberries, mulberries, guava. It is great to see so much happening and being grown, and thriving here.

Of course, moms and dads like to show young children the cows, goats, and chickens, and the children love to come face-to-face with them. It was a



... Continued story on page A5

► Inside the main tent there was plenty of produce

Department of Sports Honours Chambria Dalhouse

By Flynn Bush

Whatever it is one is doing, it is harder to do if there is no discernible, defined finish line in sight. For any athlete, there is a competition, or set of competitions, that they train towards and focus upon. Footballers train for the upcoming season or game; swimmers train for the next meet; runners train for the next race; boxers train for their next fight; and so forth. These future events give athletes a point of focus and their training regime and schedule are highly guided by that. Ask a hundred athletes if they could find the motivation to train hard and effectively if they did not know what time their competition would be and the majority would quickly state that they could not. Yet, Chambria Dalhouse was in that situation, and proved to be the exception.

At the time that Chambria discovered boxing, the sport in Cayman was not well established for females. Sure, there had been other women who had achieved well locally, but there was no continuity; certainly, there was not enough participants in order for the program to flourish. When asked what inspired her to get involved in the sport, Chambria replied, "I wanted to try something different and I just thought it would be nice to do something that I am unfamiliar and uncomfortable with and see how far I can get." Then, once she got started, there was no stopping her.

Over the next four years, Chambria worked hard, learned everything she could, and dedicated herself to mastering her craft. Along the way, her coaches and the association attempted to arrange fights for her but, with the lack of comparable female fighters on the island, weren't able to do so. Still, she persevered. Eventually, she got her chance and set out to make the most of it.

For her, Chambria feels that her boxing came to a head at the Caribbean Championships. There, she was paired against a much taller opponent from Trinidad and Tobago. She says that she didn't know



what to expect because, by that time, she had only had a few fights and had not faced someone like this before. It proved to be a great challenge. Chambria describes it like this, "The fight was tough, and I tried hard to remember all of my training. Then, when my arm was raised in victory, I had the biggest feeling of how all the hard work and effort had been for this one moment. It was incredible, and it is still my most memorable fight."

... Continued story on page A4

Talk on the Street: Skyscrapers



Recently, there has been talk about the building of an "iconic tower" in Cayman. Even the House Speaker has made statements of support for the height restriction on buildings to be raised from ten stories where it is now. So, this publication took to the streets to gauge the public's feelings on the matter. The specific question posed was, "Do you think that skyscrapers would be good for Cayman?" Below are the responses of 13 individuals.

Peter, Caymanian, 67:

"I think that a few skyscrapers would be okay. I would hate for the island to be filled with dozens of them, though. It would alter the entire atmosphere of the island."

Brian, Caymanian, 26:

"I like the idea, but I think that if they are close to the beach, it would not be so good."

Michael, American tourist, 46:

"I would hate to see that happen. The reason my family comes to Cayman is because it is not like Miami. I think that we would probably find another island to visit instead."

... Continued story on page A2



Caymanian Times

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EDITORIAL

Food Security

Food security is defined as the availability of food and one's access to it. A household is considered food secure when its occupants do not live in hunger or fear of starvation. Stages of food insecurity range from food secure situations to full-scale famine.

The 52nd Annual Agricultural Show was a huge success.

The Agriculture show keeps getting better every year. Agriculture of all kinds is on the rise in Cayman right now, as the market for healthy, fresh, locally-grown food continues to grow. People are finding out that local fruits are just better tasting than imported food, which is subjected to more chemicals and isn't nearly so fresh.

The fabulous displays at this agriculture show not only left many persons staring in awe, but also stimulated the thought patterns of potential farmers.

With the cost of food supplies increasing on a regular basis individuals are seriously considering cultivating their own food supplies in their backyard gardens. This tradition has existed for many years but may have been neglected as the Cayman Islands prospered with its Banking Industry.



The freshness of these local products and the ability to grow them easily is reason enough for homeowners to start thinking about securing food supplies and also affordable price levels that must be contained.

The construction and operation of the farmers market in Georgetown is another indication that the Government supports the cultivation of local produce and we encourage readers to do the same. Buying local produce if you are not able to create your own backyard garden will increase the demand and encourage the supermarkets to purchase from local farmers thereby stimulating the local economy.

Food security is everybody's business and whether you are a consumer or farmer this task is surely yours. 🌱

TALK ON THE STREET

Talk On The Street: Skyscrapers in Cayman

... Continued story from page A1

Keira, Caymanian, 44:

"This is about the worst idea I have ever heard with relation to building and planning."

Nicky, Caymanian, 34:

"If it is done right, I guess it could be okay. I don't think it should be any higher than about 20 stories, though, and not on the beach."

Lisa, Caymanian, 48:

If we build skyscrapers, I think that it shouldn't be only for offices. If this is for residences, reasonably priced, then I would be for it."

Nigel, British citizen on work permit, 42:

"I don't see what the fuss is about. There is no need for Cayman to have skyscrapers. Cayman is fine the way that it is. This idea is going to end with the island looking like a big city, and it will lose a lot of its charm."

Lois, Jamaican on work permit, 39:

"All these people going crazy. What do they need to have a tall building like that for? Cayman is good the way it is now."

George, Caymanian, 56:

"I think it is good. Do you know that in Bermuda, they have run out of land and can only build upward. This can help prevent all of our land from being built on in 15 years."

Mandy, Canadian on work permit, 41:

"I think that this is solely about money. It is not about what is good for the Cayman Islands. To me, it would be not a good thing to have a skyscraper in Cayman. It wouldn't look right."

Brenda, Jamaican on work permit, 49:

"I don't think this is a good thing. Cayman is not a big city that needs to have a tall building like that."

Chris, Caymanian, 42:

"I vote no. We don't need it. We should just put our foot down and say, 'Enough is enough.'"

Grace, American frequent tourist, 62:

"This will be a good thing for Cayman. When you build up higher and higher, it reduces the amount of land that needs to be built upon. That means that the natural vegetation remains and there is still an island feeling. I hope it happens." 🌱

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CAL's 2nd Max 8 Arrives

On Thursday evening at about 7.10 pm, Cayman Airways' second Max 8 came home.

With Captain Steven Coe and First Officer Giselah Ebanks at the controls, VP-CIX touched down smoothly after its 5 ½ hour flight from the Boeing Field in Seattle.

Also, on board were Cayman Airways President and CEO, Fabian Whorms, and VP Maintenance and Engineering, Wayne Miller.

The aircraft will be christened into service with the CAL fleet next week. 🌱



► CAL President and CEO, Fabian Whorms with Capt. Steven Coe and FO Giselah Ebanks

Ministry of Education Local Scholarships Application Process Now Open

The Ministry of Education's local scholarships application process is now open and eligible Caymanian students and adults are invited to apply until the deadline of 30 April 2019. Funding is available for Year 12 students to pursue studies in A-level and BTEC Level 3 Extended for two years, and Year 13 students to pursue studies in Advanced Placement (AP), CAPE and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. Government will also award scholarships for certificate, associate, bachelor, master and law degree programmes at ICCI, UCCL, UWI Open Campus, St. Matthew's University and the Cayman Islands Law School.

"The Ministry of Education is committed to providing students with every possible opportunity to fulfil their education and career goals. As the Minister

for Education, I encourage Caymanians, who meet the scholarship criteria, to apply because I believe that there is no better way to invest in these Islands, than investing in the education of our people," remarked Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly.

"The Scholarships Secretariat is here to assist applicants, if necessary, in navigating the relevant online application, which now also includes a means test," said Dr. Shari Smith, Acting Manager of the Scholarships Secretariat.

The online application for local scholarships is located on the Ministry of Education website (www.education.gov.ky/scholarships). For more information, contact the Scholarship Secretariat at 244-2482 or email scholarships@gov.ky. 🌱

Information on Scheduled Outage

Area: Watercourse Road in West Bay

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CUC advises customers on Watercourse Road in West Bay that they will experience interruptions to their electrical service on Thursday, March 14 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Areas affected include all customers on Watercourse Road between the junction of Hell Road and the junction of North West Point Road including Cockscur Way, Topaz Lane, Calamel Drive, Worthing Drive, Hastings Crescent, Poinciana Lane, Ficus Close, Adelia Close, Wild Woods Lane, Evelyn Lane, Eureka Drive, Hamlet Lane, Glidden

Lane, Ebanks Road, Florrie Dell and Lindy's Walk.

Motorists are asked to drive with caution when utilising this section of Watercourse Road as CUC will have a number of vehicles and personnel in the area and will be required to temporarily block one lane on several sections of Watercourse Road.

CUC apologises for this interruption, which is necessary to facilitate required overhead infrastructure upgrades to provide our customers with safe, reliable and efficient power.

For more information on the outage and streets affected, please contact CUC's Customer Service Team at 949-5200 or e-mail service@cuc.ky. 🌱



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Caymanian Times

Issue # 347

Publisher: Ralph Lewis
Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd
#19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)
Telephone: 345 916 2000
Email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky, or info@caymaniantimes.ky
Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky

Cayman Turtle Centre celebrates new debt-free status

Cayman Turtle Conservation and Education Centre: Island Wildlife Encounter is pleased to announce that it is now free of all its long-term debt, having now fully paid down the final balance on what originally was the equivalent of just over 50 million CI dollars that was borrowed between 2004 and 2009 primarily to build the facility.

In 2001 after Hurricane Michelle destroyed most of the facilities of the sea-side location it was decided the Cayman Turtle Farm, as it was called at the time, should be extensively rebuilt across Northwest Point Road on the far less vulnerable land side. The loan financed the creation of the new facility to turn the operation into a state-of-the-art world-class tourist attraction and an enhanced scientific and conservation organisation. As a result, the Turtle Centre is now the premier land-based attraction in the Cayman Islands, and producing for the country a very significant positive economic impact from over a quarter million tourists a year who visit the Centre. In addition, the Centre has collaborated in over 150 published scientific studies and projects and made numerous advances in marine sea turtle conservation through its extensive programmes.

Since that time, the government has supported the facility by making regular equity injection payments every quarter to repay the debt as well as help with operating costs. Loans extended by local banks First Caribbean International Bank Cayman Islands and Cayman National Bank have already been paid off, back in 2017 and 2016 respectively, with the large initial bond of 44.6 million US dollars being finally paid off on 1 March this year.

"It's a monumental day in an organisation's history when it not only has paid off one major financial debt instrument but multiple loans, and when that organisation can call themselves debt free where all long term debt has been fulfilled,"

Ministry of Tourism Chief Officer, Stran Bodden said. "Being debt free puts an organisation in a much stronger position to be able to negotiate with stakeholders, develop new partnerships and establish new opportunities to grow."

"Government understands the benefit of the Cayman Turtle Centre and has supported it financially wherever possible, because it sees Cayman Turtle Centre as being both innovative and creative to increase revenue streams. We applaud the continued determination of the Centre to serve the Cayman Islands both as a top-notch tourist attraction as well as the leader in the area of sea turtle conservation, education and scientific study." Mr. Bodden continued, "We have seen many improvements in operational costs through the continued drive to move forward and find new ways to advance. Turtle Centre is driven to uncover new options, and looking at new ways of diversification."

The new debt-free status of Cayman Turtle Centre means that in future, the Government's financial injections will not only be significantly reduced, but will also be used solely for making the day-to-day running of the facility more competitive, as it pursues its goals of reaching out to more visitors than ever before. Year by year the attraction provides additional benefits via enticing tourists onto the island and providing them with memorable and unique experiences, generating economic activity supporting not just the 100-plus Caymanians who are employed there, but through all the revenue consistently being generated from related tourist businesses: the second pillar of the country's economy. That involves a large number of tour operators, tour boats, taxis,



restaurants and stores that benefit so much, and to a significant extent depend on the visitor traffic generated by Cayman's premier land-based attraction.

Cayman Turtle Centre's Chief Executive Officer, Timothy Adam, said, "This is indeed a significant milestone. It has been achieved by the ongoing support of the Cayman Islands Government through all these years, especially the Ministry of Tourism. They understood the importance of sustaining our mission both in attracting large numbers of tourists as well as in marine turtle conservation, scientific study, and education. Being finally free of that debt means that, in effect, that support from this point on can be directly focused on our mission. We can continue improving the island wildlife encounter experience as Cayman's number one land-based attraction for our 300,000 guests annually including residents, visitors to Cayman, schools and other groups and in so doing, keep the Cayman Turtle Centre shining as a real jewel in the Cayman Islands' Crown."

"We are grateful to the Cayman Islands Government, and by extension, the people of the Cayman Islands, who have never stopped believing in, and supporting us. We would like to say that we believe, in turn, that both the news of our debt-free status, as well as the report from the genetic study conducted by the University of Barcelona, the

University of Exeter and the Department of Environment which has shown beyond any shadow of doubt the efficacy of our conservation measures, is our way of repaying all the faith and trust they have put in us over the years."

Brian Wight, Chairman of the Board for Cayman Turtle Centre, went on to say, "It is often quoted that

the more you know about something, the more you want to protect it. From now on Cayman Turtle Centre will be freer to focus on providing an even better experience to more people, from the thousands of visitors who come every week, to schools and universities, including those involved in ground breaking scientific investigation. We want people to enjoy the fun and adventure when visiting while learning more about how to conserve these majestic creatures that have swum through the worlds' oceans since before the time of the dinosaurs."

News of the final debt payment follows the positive results from a report, which shows by clear scientific evidence that nine out of every ten green turtles that are coming home to breed in our waters and nest on Cayman's beaches are related to turtles released from the Turtle Centre. This report is based on a genetic study conducted by scientists from the University of Barcelona and University of Exeter, in collaboration with the Cayman Islands Department of Environment and Cayman Turtle Centre. It also points to comparison data from the 1980's when the release program was starting to gather momentum to now, that the number of nests on Cayman's beaches has gone from zero to nearly 200 per year. Last year, in celebration of the Centre's 50th Anniversary, more than 1,300 turtles were released, continuing the Centre's success story. 🌐

DOT launches new Advertising Campaign

When travelers look at other beach destinations in advertising, they often find a basic sea of sameness. Today, the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism sets itself apart from competing locales with an all-new television, print and digital media campaign called "Dream in Cayman," which artfully incorporates the natural unmatched beauty of the three-island paradise in a surreal and whimsical way, further positioning the Cayman Islands as a premier luxury lifestyle destination.

"Building on the success of past marketing initiatives, the Cayman Islands' new campaign is rooted in the destination's pristine natural beauty and luxurious reputation, but with a creative twist that gives off the look and vibe of a high-fashion advertisement," said Hon. Moses I. Kirkconnell, Deputy Premier of the Cayman Islands. "The Dream in Cayman concept perfectly represents our exceptional quality and distinctively lavish island style, and I am proud of the Department of Tourism and our agency partners for their creativity and hard work pushing the boundaries of destination advertising."

The "Dream in Cayman" campaign captures the Cayman Islands' unique identity and polished beach scenery, and creatively showcases the unexpected beauty and authentic travel experiences that differentiate the destination



from surrounding Caribbean islands and tropical vacation spots. From iconic settings such as the world-famous Seven Mile Beach, Crystal Caves and Stingray City, to lesser known locations such as a private backyard orchid garden, the campaign combines a nod to the Cayman Islands' unparalleled product and effortless allure with elements of high-fashion advertising to establish wanderlust among discerning travellers.

"Looking ahead to what we anticipate will be another year of record-breaking arrivals for the Cayman Islands, we are excited to launch our new stylish ad campaign that truly brings our destination to life in a fresh, luxurious and imaginative way, while boasting the diversity of experiences that are unrivalled by any other beach destination," said Mrs. Rosa Harris, Director of Tourism for the Cayman Islands. "The Cayman Islands is more than a sun and sand destination; rather, it is a lifestyle retreat catering to travellers of all ages and interests. This campaign cap-



tures the spirit of Cayman while reminding travellers that they can create unforgettable memories with family, friends and loved ones during their stay."

Created and produced by The Richards Group and photographed by Miss Aniela, a husband-and-wife photographer team, with support from local underwater photographer Jason Washington, the new ad campaign officially launches today and will continue exclusively on TV, digital and the Department of Tourism's social channels throughout 2019. The creative was shot throughout Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman and features several talented Caymanian models, who gracefully posed for underwater photographs deep along the ocean floor and in beautiful settings filled with exotic flora and fauna. For an added touch, the television commercial song is a reimagined version of "Beyond the Sea," sung by local Caymanian Sarah McTaggart to capture the dreamy vibe and uniqueness of both



the destination the Department of Tourism's new ad campaign.

"The unexpected beauty, unique encounters with nature and polished service of the Cayman Islands truly set it apart from other islands. Where else in the world can one dance with stingrays in the morning, meet a Blue Iguana in the afternoon and feast on 5-star cuisine at night? The "Dream in Cayman" campaign was designed to create a place full of whimsy and charm and mystique that feels less like destination advertising and more like a luxury fashion brand," said Ron Henderson, Creative Director for The Richards Group. "The best fashion ads leave a lot unsaid but do a wonderful job of compelling you to buy into the brand and embrace the lifestyle."

View the stunning new "Dream in Cayman" campaign online at VisitCaymanIslands.com and follow the luxury lifestyle destination on Instagram at @VisitCaymanIslands or on Facebook at Facebook.com/VisitCaymanIslands. 🌐

POLICE NEWS

RCIPS Issues 98 Speeding Tickets

Officers from the RCIPS Traffic and Roads Policing Unit conducted a series of traffic operations recently, as part of continuing efforts to address excessive speeding, and in response to concerns from members of the public about speeding in certain areas.

As a result of these operations, 98 tickets were issued for speeding between Monday, 25 February and Sunday, 3 March, 37 of which were issued on Sunday. The areas targeted included specific sections of Shamrock Road in the Spotts and Lower Valley areas, along with the Esterley Tibbetts and Linford Pierson Highways. The operations commenced during early morning hours, before morning traffic, and continued throughout the day.

Persons ticketed were found to be travelling at speeds ranging from 60MPH to over 80MPH, or 30MPH faster than the highest speed limit anywhere on island.

"The speeds that we are seeing continue to be excessive, and I want to emphasize how much risk this level of speeding poses, not just to your safety but to that of other road users as well," said Inspector Ian Yearwood, head of the TRPU. "However, it is not only a safety risk but a financial one. The stand-



ard fine for speeding is \$20 for every mile over the speed limit. That means that most of those prosecuted during this week will be facing fines of several hundred dollars."

Speeding penalties are also doubled in school zones and other special zones.

"If your fine exceeds \$500 you will have to make a mandatory court appearance, where you are likely to lose your license for a minimum of six months," added Inspector Yearwood. "And make no mistake, if you are caught speeding, you will be prosecuted."

To view this press release on our website visit <http://www.rcips.ky/aggravated-burglary-in-west-bay-7-march> or download the RCIPS mobile app for instant notifications. 🌐

Aggravated Burglary in West Bay

Just before 10:30PM on Wednesday 6 March, police were dispatched by the 9-1-1 Communication Centre to an address in the Birch Tree Hill area of West Bay, where it was reported that two persons, one armed with an object that appeared to be a handgun and the other a long metal object, entered the residence and demanded money from its occupant.

A struggle ensued between the victim and one of the perpetrators, at which time the two male perpetrators both fled the location. The victim is understood not to have sustained any serious injuries during the attack.

There have been no arrests made in this investigation so far.

The matter is under police investigation and anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the West Bay CID at 949-3999.

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

CIG Department of Sports Honours Chambria Dalhouse Tenacious

... Continued story from page A1

Currently in university, Chambria is still training at a level to keep up her fitness and skill level. She plans to continue the sport for the foreseeable future. When her career is all over, and she walks away from the ring, Chambria feels that she will be most proud of, "Playing a part in the revitalization of the sport of boxing in Cayman." From this viewpoint, she is more of a cornerstone for that process. Now, she says that she looks forward to seeing what fellow Caymanian Brandy Barnes will accomplish in the future.

Because of what she has gained, Chambria says that she would definitely encourage other youth to get involved in sport. She says, "I think it's extremely important, besides the physical ben-



efits, it helps them push themselves to the limits and test their self-control and discipline. In addition to this, it helps them to be able to have a better mental space and overall mental health as being in school is a constant stress with exams and grades. It really helps them to make better decisions and trust yourself and see what they're capable of." The Cayman Islands Department of Sports



has made it a point to highlight persons during Honouring Women's Month (HWM) who have contributed greatly to the promotion or development of sport/fitness in our community. Chambria, through her dedication and

her accomplishments as a boxer, has earned that recognition. She is a true achiever and an example of steadfast perseverance. Therefore, we present Chambria Dalhouse as a 2019 HWM Honouree. 🌐

Children's Garden takes shape

By Lindsey Turnbull

With its huge potential when complete in educating Cayman's youngsters about the outdoors, the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park's Children's Garden is already now able to showcase its Rotary Education Centre Building, a brilliant open-air facility that will play a key role in the facility as a whole.

The Children's Garden has been designed over a half an acre site at Cayman's Botanic Park and will include a multitude of features all aimed at capturing the imagination and educating Cayman's young people about the natural environment. With its emphasis on nature play and science learning, the Children's Garden will include a sensory garden, a climbing area, a discovery pond and a free play area, plus a great lawn where exhibitions can take place.

Community collaboration

The Education Centre Building is an important part of the project and has been constructed in record time over the past three to four months thanks to the input of the community. In the main, the building has been sponsored by the three Rotary Clubs in the Cayman Islands – Rotary Sunrise, Rotary Club of Grand Cayman and Rotary Central, who have donated considerable funds to the project.

John Lawrus, the Park's General Manager, said a big thank you to the Rotary clubs and he confirmed that other members of the community have also stepped up to help.

"ITC Tiles provided the floor tiling for the Education Centre and John Doak was the architect behind the design. Corporate Electric undertook all the mechanical, electrical and plumbing work for free, APEC Engineering donated all the engineering design work and Cayman Islands Roofing provided the standing seam aluminum roof. The project was managed by BCQS International and our thanks also go to AL Thompson's, the general contractor Lalev Construction and the Tourism Attractions Board," he advised.

The need for an education building was evident, John said.

"We get around 150 to 200 school children at the Botanic Park every month on field trips and up until now there has never been anywhere for them to have a lesson," he advised. "The children would look around the Park, then get on the bus and drive back to school. The Education Centre gives us a place to help the children appreciate what they have seen and retain the knowledge better."

The building is multi-purpose, allowing for book reading, science fairs and performances. It has a series of mova-



► Plans are taking shape

ble benches made from reclaimed wood from the Owen Roberts International Airport's original A-frame building, a great demonstration of repurposing and recycling, John advised.

The open-air design was always a key feature to the building.

"It was intentional so we could give children the opportunity to see what it feels like to be outside and not be constantly coddled indoors by the internet. It's been purpose-built to accommodate children from the ages of four to 16 and it faces North East to make the most of the natural wind flow," he said.

The garden, when complete, will be split into two sections, one for structured learning and one for learning through play. An observation tower will rise above the tree canopy and there will be a water feature including a fountain and a splash pad for water fun. The Garden Club of Cayman has sponsored a maze and a discovery pond will have a net that children can climb over as well as climbing boulders. Schools will have their own 'grow zones' where young people can see the fruits of their labours come to life.

"We want the whole garden make school books come to life," John stated. "We want children to appreciate



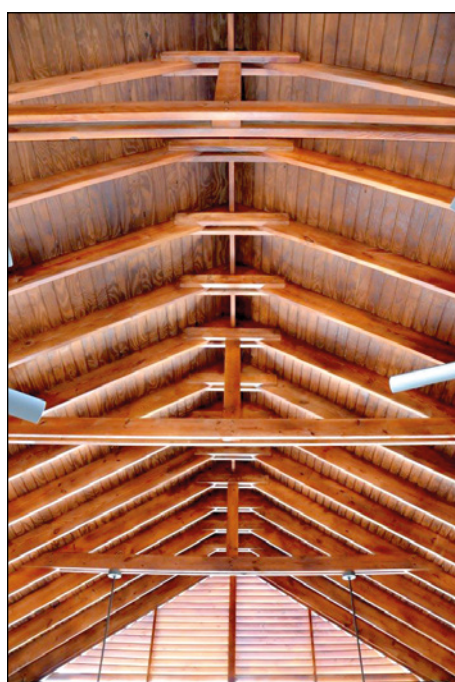
► Botanic Park Manager John Lawrus details plans for the Children's Garden

that working outside is not a bad thing and our goal is to capture the imaginations of young people and perhaps even mentor children whose imagination is caught by what they see."

Watch this space for updates on the Children's Garden as it develops. 🌐



► A great place to study



► Sturdy roof construction



► The airy Education Centre in the Children's Garden

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► Produce of all kinds

52nd Agriculture show better than ever

... Continued story from page A1

very child-friendly event, and there was a special children's corner with slides and games, and there was a bouncy castle too. There weren't any pigs this year, sadly. When I asked one of the officials why, he said that the main pig farmer who usually brings them hadn't brought any this year. But there were plenty of horses, and children and their parents were lining up for horseback riding.

His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper OBE said, "Despite the small size of the islands and the scarcity of agricultural land I know that Cayman has a long and rich agricultural heritage. Locally produced food is not only tasty and healthy but it also helps the environment and the local economy. We should all look to buy local first."

Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin said: "While we still see many backyard gardeners who grow foodstuffs as a hobby, there are some very serious and successful farmers throughout the Cayman Islands, some of them sustainable and alternative methods."

George Smith, President, Cayman Islands Agricultural Society said "The theme, 'Commitment to Sustainable Agriculture in a Changing World,' backed by the sub-theme of, 'When you eat local, you are involved in agriculture,' is a fitting reminder of what is happening in today's world."

Each year, more and more people are starting up businesses that process lo-



► Bobo the fruit-and-vegetable cyclist



► The Agriculture Queen (left) and Miss Cayman Islands World

cally grown crops. There was more than one sugar-cane juice machine I could see, where the operator put the sugar cane in between two rollers, turned a

handle flattening the sugar cane while out came the most refreshing juice. People couldn't buy enough of it. Everyone is getting a taste for the Cayman Islands. Then there are the pepper jellies, preserves of all kinds, and fruit juices, from guava to passion fruit.

Joelle Walton grows a huge variety of crops on his couple of acres in Lower Valley, and his variety of fruit trees alone was just as amazing: "I've got Star apple guinep, naseberry, guava, kalanchoe, sweet sap, Malay apple, pomegranate, vine grapes, java plum, custard apple, mulberry..." he said. He was selling fruit juices and coconut water, too, as well as a very big range of produce.

No Agriculture show would be complete without mentioning traditional art and crafts, and in the main building there were award-winning samples of exquisite silver thatch work - hats, bags, baskets, and there were also art-

ists with beautiful paintings, too. Then there were the food vendors, selling all kinds of fried fish, plantains, heavy cake. Its one of the things that makes the Agriculture show so enjoyable - you don't just see it; you eat it.

There were some beautiful displays from each of the districts, in the main building. Bodden Town Heritage Committee always put together something different, but this year they really excelled, by making a life-size man on a bicycle, all made out of fruits, vegetables and sugar-cane. His body was a big bunch of bananas, the bicycle's frame was sugar cane, and his head was a coconut. But he looked alive, with a hand of little bananas on the handlebar, and big wheels filled with carrots, tomatoes and cucumbers. Committee member Betty wood was there, explaining how hard they all worked to make the produce-man. "His name is Bobo," she said.



► One of the district displays



► Thatch work and crafts



► Are you recycling right? A team from the Department of Environmental Health was explaining how to recycle properly



► Fruit trees for people who want to start growing their own fruits



► First prize!

CIFFA COED SEASON 2019 HAD A POSITIVE START

The Cayman Islands Flag Football Coed League season kicked off on the 1st of March at the Ed Bush Field in West Bay. Spectators came out to cheer on returning teams as well as newly formed ones and were eager to watch teams battle it out on the fields for Division A and Division B games. The first games started promptly at 6:30, with Glasshouse up against Popeye's in Division A. Popeye's defeated Glasshouse 32- 16. In Division B, CNB went up against Walkers. Both teams were strong both offensively and

defensively, however in the end, CNB would win ending the game 16-10.

In the 7:30 matchups, Division A had defending champions Burger Shack, up against Deloitte. The game was a nail biting one to the end as both teams were extremely strong offensively. In the end, Burger Shack will clutch the win 14-12. In Division B, Bogle Insurance went up against Cayman Auto. Bogle will go on to snag their first win 20- 14.

In the final set of games scheduled for 8:30, Maples were up against

newcomers to coed Magnum Chargers. Despite being a newly formed team, they worked great defensively. However, they were no match for the seasoned Maples, who will clench the win 26-0.

In Division B game, BNP went up against defending Division B champs Tribe Tattoo. Tribe will dominate the game, despite the strong defensive tack-

les put on by BnP. Tribe will win the game 23-14.

Week 2 will continue on Friday, March 8, which will also feature newly formed teams Dolphin Discovery and Cayman Water. Games are scheduled at Ed Bush Field in West Bay, with games commencing at 6:30. For information regarding the association or game schedule, please email ciffa345@gmail.com

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<p>A 6 x 9 (approx. 50 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of one room such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Couches • Chairs • Chest of drawers • Lamps • A few boxes 	<p>A 10 x 15 (approx. 150 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of four rooms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mattress sets • Sofas • Armchairs • Dining room sets • Chest of drawers
<p>A 6 x 13 (approx. 75 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of two rooms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mattress sets • Sofas • Chest of drawers • Bookcases • Desks 	<p>A 10 x 20 (approx. 200 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of five rooms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mattress sets • Refrigerators • Washers/dryers • Many boxes

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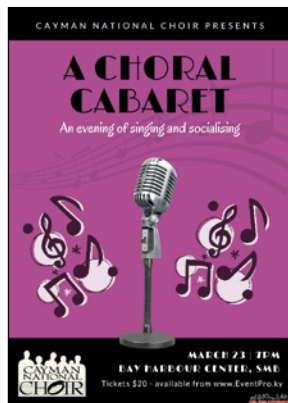
TWO WEEKENDS. TWO VENUES. TWO CAPTIVATING CONCERTS

The Cayman National Choir and Orchestra are kicking off their 2019 season with two captivating concerts - 'Fiesta,' presented by the orchestra on March 17th and 'A Choral Cabaret' performance by the choir on March 23rd

'Fiesta' - conducted by musical director Jonathan Taylor, promises to be a thrilling concert which bridges Spanish music to Latin American. Featuring the full Cayman National Orchestra the audience will be treated to a musical journey from Bizet's Carmen to the Argentinean Tango. Tickets are \$40 for adults, which includes a glass of wine or Sangria, and \$20 for under 18s, which includes a soft drink. There will also be a cash bar.

Fiesta is on March 17th at the Harquail Theater at 7:30pm. Tickets can be purchased from <https://eventpro.ky/buytickets/fiesta/>

'A Choral Cabaret' - presented by musical director Sue Horrocks offers the audience something completely different - an evening of choral arrange-



ments of well-known songs performed by the National Choir. Spanning the last 60 decades, from pop to doo-wop, Disney to disco, there will be something for everyone, as well as a guest appearance from the Singrays, the popular local a cappella group. This is an informal event with a cash bar and relaxed night club atmosphere in the CNCO rehearsal rooms. The audience is invited to come for the music and stay for the socializing! Tickets are \$20 but this venue has limited capacity so book early.

'A Choral Cabaret' is on March 23rd at the Bay Harbour Center, West Bay Road at 7.00pm. Tickets can be pur-

chased from <https://eventpro.ky/buytickets/a-choral-cabaret/>

When booking adult tickets for both events from www.EventPro.ky there is a discount of \$10.

For more information or interviews with Sue Horrocks or Jonathan Taylor please contact Graham Morse, tel. 925 6353, email, grahammorse80@gmail.com

JUNIOR ACHIEVERS LAY TILES OF CAYMANIAN HISTORY

As Cayman continues to develop, it is refreshing to take a look back at how far we have come. Tiles in Time, Dart's Junior Achievement company, is giving customers a chance to have a piece of Old Cayman right in their homes. The commemorative art pieces feature photos of historic sites and events from Cayman in days gone by.

The students, a mix from John Gray High School, Cayman Prep and High School, Cayman Academy, CIFEC and St. Ignatius Catholic School, chose the tile as a product for many reasons. The most important is that the tiles were easily and consciously sourced at no cost since they were leftover from past construction projects. The images were found on social media or through friends of the company.

The product serves as a great talking point for persons who are new to Cayman or have been here for generations. Each piece tells a story of how far our little islands have come as a country, and serve as "Tiles" in the mosaic that is Caymanian history.

Tiles in Time will be at the 2019 Agricultural Show selling their products as well as taking orders for custom pieces.

For more information, like Tiles in Time on Facebook and follow @tilesintime on Instagram.



► Tiles in Time production



► Tiles in Time

Sterling Global Financial Bridge Finances 357-Room Grand Cayman Grand Hyatt

A \$22.5 million loan from a fund managed by Bahamas-based Sterling Global Financial will bridge finance the development of the much-anticipated 357-room Grand Hyatt Hotel and Residences on Grand Cayman, a 5-star resort that is expected to deliver additional lure to the famous 7-mile beach on the Caribbean isle.

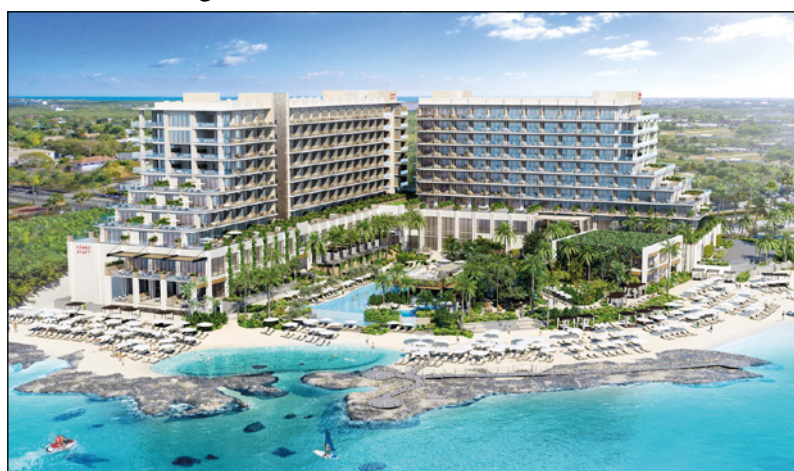
The announcement was made this week by Sterling Global Financial Chairman David Kosoy.

"We at Sterling pride ourselves in relationship building and attention to client needs. In practical terms, that means speed of response, assurance of financial sustainability and expertise in execution," said Mr. Kosoy. "With the proposal for the Grand Hyatt in Grand Cayman, it took our team 10 days from introduction to advancing a first mortgage on the project that will generate major economic thrust to the island and

produce a 5-star property with residences as well as traditional hotel rooms."

The mortgage will be placed through Sterling Mortgage Income Fund which generated an 11.33% annual return on investment in 2018 for accredited investors in the alternative debt investment asset class.

The Grand Hyatt is one of several resorts Sterling Global Financial funds are assisting with in the region and beyond, including the \$300 million Sterling Hurricane Hole Marina project in The Bahamas, Sky Beach in Eleuthera (Bahamas) and a third in Abaco, also in The Bahamas.



► A \$22.5 million loan from Sterling Global Financial Sterling Mortgage income Fund will bridge finance re-development of the 5-star Grand Cayman Grand Hyatt

wellness spa, three swimming pools, six food and beverage venues, luxury retail and 25,000 square feet of indoor conference space and meeting areas that will constitute the largest facilities of their kind in the Cayman Islands.

Headquartered in Nassau, Bahamas, Sterling Global Financial is a diverse financial umbrella corporation that encompasses income and opportunity funds, private banking, trust services, financial ad-

ministration and wealth management. Located on seven prime acres of beachfront, once completed Cayman's Grand Hyatt resort and residential offering will include a 12,000 square foot

Sterling funds have earned numerous awards for return on investment and stability.

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Cruise Ship Passengers Quarantined at Gatwick Airport After Arriving on Flight from Barbados

Three people have reportedly been hospitalized after a Virgin Atlantic flight from Barbados was quarantined today, due to widespread illness on the plane.

Dozens of passengers on the Virgin charter flight that was carrying 448 holidaymakers who were returning home after travelling on the cruise ship MSC Preziosa in the Caribbean, had complained of feeling unwell.

The plane was met by emergency services following an eight-hour flight from Barbados that landed at 5:25 a.m. A Sussex Police representative said the plane was quarantined as a precaution, and the passengers and crew were escorted to a secure location where they were checked over by the ambulance service.

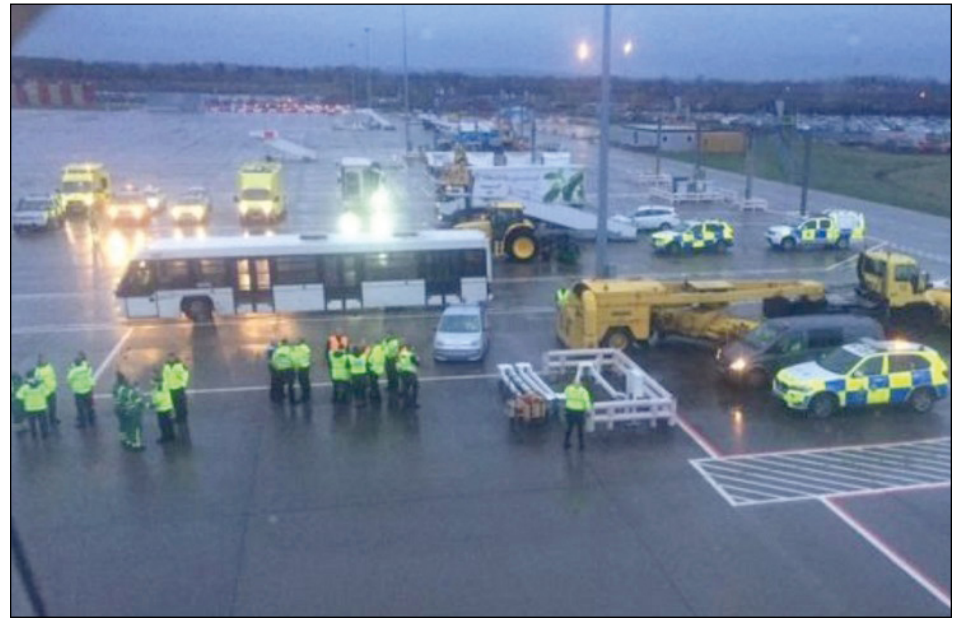
After checks were performed, several passengers were cleared to continue their journeys.

One passenger speculated that the illness might have originated on board the ship and not the plane. But Swiss-based cruise line MSC Cruises said in a statement that no cases of acute gastroenteritis on the MSC Preziosa had been reported in the past 14 days.

"We are still investigating what may have caused the illness and we are currently waiting for further updates from Gatwick Airport medical services," a spokesperson said.

A Virgin Atlantic spokeswoman added that the airline was working with the airport and medical teams "to offer assistance to customers, and will conduct a full investigation into the circumstances".

She said screening was a standard procedure when a health issue was reported on board a plane and "there is no reason to believe this is anything other than an isolated incident".



► The plane was met by emergency services at London Gatwick following an eight-hour flight from Barbados (Credit: Trevor Wilson/Twitter)

Corporal Punishment to be Abolished in St Lucia's Schools

Corporal punishment will be suspended in schools across St Lucia later this year before eventually being abolished a year later.

The disclosure has come from the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development which said the move is in keeping with the many international conventions to which the island is signatory.

Corporal punishment is to be suspended on May 1 this year, and eventually abolished by May 2020.

Chief Education Officer Ruffina Charles said that while the Education Act has no stated policy for the abolition of corporal punishment, it contained structures in the Act that stipulated how corporal punishment should be administered. Charles added however that the department must ensure that the mandates stipulated in the conventions, including protection of children, are achieved.

To oversee the implementation process, the Department of Education has established a working committee charged with the responsibility of deciding the required initiatives and implementation dates towards the eventual abolition of corporal punishment. The initiatives will include the sensitization of the general public and training for educators on island.

"As the Department continues to encourage positive behaviour interventions among other pro-child friendly modes of engagement for the positive holistic development of our nation's children, it will continue to ensure that stakeholders are adequately equipped to move in the new direction with the optimism that an education system free of corporal punishment is indeed possible," it said in a statement.

"The department also remains committed to ensuring that schools subscribe to and practice UNICEF sup-



ported child friendly schools' framework as a means of addressing violence against children."

The department will host several re-tooling exercises in the coming weeks and months as part of the implementation plan.

Guyana to Ban Single-Use Plastics in 2021

The year 2021 has been designated for the systematic ban of single-use plastics in Guyana.

This was announced by Minister of State Joseph Harmon, under whose purview the Department of Environment falls, as he addressed a World Wildlife Day Youth Forum.

"The work has already begun on sensitizing our population to the fact that 2021 is the date we have identified for a ban on single-use plastics," he said.

"And so it is important that we get ourselves ready for that, and minimize the use of single-use plastics."

As much as 40 per cent of the world's oceans are affected by pollution, with an estimated eight million metric tonnes of plastic waste entering those waters annually.

Minister Harmon said this "provides a good opportunity to raise awareness about the vast diversity of marine life globally, its crucial importance to human development and the importance

of prudent management of marine resources for future generations."

This year's World Wildlife Day theme 'Life below Water: for People and Planet' aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 which relates to the conservation of the oceans. This includes the expansion of protected areas for marine biodiversity, intensification of research capacity and increases in ocean science funding which remain critically important to preserve marine resources.

Minister Harmon highlighted that in addition to aligning with SDG 14, the theme also aligns with Objective 3 of Guyana's Green State Development Strategy (GSDS).

"Objective 3 includes the protection, restoration, and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources is, therefore, aimed at ensuring that Guyana adopts an enhanced pro-



gram and institute measures to engage in the sustainable use and preservation

of our marine and coastal ecosystems," he noted.



► Minister of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives and CARICOM Affairs Oliver Joseph

Grenada Government to Make Contribution to Cash-Strapped LIAT

Minister Gaston Brown last weekend that approaches would be made to the governments of Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, and Guyana, which benefit from the carrier, to become shareholders.

LIAT is majority owned by several Caribbean governments, with Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica being the largest shareholders, owning 97.4 per cent of the airline. Private shareholders and employees hold the remaining shares.

"For Grenada, we have always maintained that we would like to see LIAT continue to serve the people of the region, but in order for us to contribute state resources to LIAT, the airline must be restructured and operated in a manner that ensures sustainability," Minister Joseph said.

The value of the Government's contribution is yet to be determined as the Dr Keith Mitchell-led administration is awaiting information from the regional airline.

"The amount of money that we will contribute will be based on the informa-



tion submitted to us by the LIAT Board, which we hope to receive very shortly, so that by the end of the month, we can make a cash contribution," Joseph said.

In addition to the cash payment this month, the Government is also willing to pay LIAT additional funds based on load factor.

"If, for example, LIAT is operating a flight between Trinidad and Grenada that is unprofitable, Government will pay to ensure that the airline breaks even on that particular route," Joseph explained.

The Grenada Government said it is hopeful that going forward there will be a financial turnaround for LIAT.

"If you're operating a business, you have to ensure that it is sustainable over the long run. We have to ensure sound financial management and reporting from the LIAT Board," Joseph said, adding that Grenada's position is that there should be no political interference in the management of the airline.

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► Michael Jackson's musical legacy is huge



► Oprah Winfrey with the 'Leaving Neverland' accusers

Jackson child sex abuse opinion split

Michael Jackson's musical legacy is under scrutiny with many radio stations already worldwide banning his music after the 'Leaving Neverland' documentary rekindled allegations of child sexual abuse.

People in the Cayman Islands, like in everywhere worldwide, are divided on whether he was a paedophile or not, many loyalties split between his musical genius and questionable behaviour with young boys.

Nevertheless, whilst radio stations are banning him and many media institutions considering doing the same, two music museums in Detroit and Tennessee aren't scrubbing the King of Pop from their exhibits. Not yet anyway.

The National Museum of African American Music says some Michael Jackson artefacts will be on display in a planned exhibit called "One Nation Under A Groove," when the museum opens in downtown Nashville in early 2020. The museum has previously released renderings of the building's design, featuring an image of Jackson on the exterior.

Meanwhile, in Detroit, the chairwoman and CEO of Motown Museum said its mission is to share the stories and artefacts of the history of Motown.

"Michael Jackson's musical contributions remain part of the Motown story," Robin Terry said. Motown Records was the first major label to record The Jackson 5, in which Michael debuted as a young star alongside his siblings and released their hits "I Want You Back" and "ABC."

The HBO documentary aired detailed and disturbing stories from two men who say Jackson groomed them for sex and molested them when they were just little boys. Allegations of sexual abuse shadowed Jackson throughout much of his adult life, and he was acquitted on child molestation charges in 2005. Jackson died in 2009, aged 50. There's been no initial evidence of major damage to Jackson's estate or his music because of the new documentary, but public outrage is gathering.

The two-night, four-hour doc received mixed reviews from social media users, and Michael Jackson fans reportedly harassed Oprah Winfrey for conducting an after-show interview with Wade Robson and James Safechuck.



► UK Jackson fans protested the airing of the documentary

"I tried and tried and tried to get the message across to people that sexual abuse was not just abuse, it was also sexual seduction," Winfrey said on her decision to conduct the interview. "But, for me, this moment transcends Michael Jackson. It is much bigger than any one person."

Meanwhile, the attorney who took Robson's hours long deposition ahead of Jackson's now infamous 2005 child molestation trial says he and Safechuck are lying about being abused by the King Of Pop and insists the pair were never paid off by the superstar.

Jackson's former lawyer and confidante Brian Oxman, 66, blasted the film, claiming Robson and Safechuck are simply chasing "fame and money".

And for the first time the former attorney - who knew Jackson for three decades - details how he had numerous telephone calls with Robson to take his sworn out-of-court testimony ahead of the Gavin Arvizo trial and reveals how he repeatedly stated: "Michael never abused me."

The once high-profile attorney was on the defence team which successfully helped Jackson get acquitted of 14 charges of abuse levelled at him by accuser Arvizo.

And at each point during his deposition and while sitting on the stand, Oxman says, Robson was "adamant" that Jackson never touched him or any other children.

Oxman said the Australian dance choreographer even volunteered to fly from his homeland to defend the Bad singer at the highly publicised trial.

The Internet has blazed over this documentary. Celebrity fandom has morphed into a vicious online tool, with superfan gangs - Beyonce's Beyhive, Justin Bieber's Beliebers, Cardi B's Bardi Gang, to name a few - attacking whenever their idol's reputation is thrown into question, no matter the circumstances.

And when celebrities face accusations of grievous crimes, as is the case with Jackson, psychiatrist Sue Varma said the urge to push back grows.

The phenomenon stems from a "need to have an escape, a fantasy, someone we aspire to be," she said. "It's a form of denial. They are superhuman and we want - rather, we need - to believe that they can do no wrong."

Jackson diehards swarmed Twitter as the doc aired, hijacking the film's eponymous hashtag to smear accusers while also defending their idol under #MJInnocent.

"Shame on you for dragging an innocent man," wrote one Twitter user with the handle @Claudia20195, calling alleged victims Wade Robson and James Safechuck "money hungry".

"The more I read into and watch this whole #FindingNeverland documentary the more angry I get," wrote another, @bailey_hensel. "These guys are exploiting a dead man to make a dollar... My heart is breaking for the Jackson family."

The documentary's director, Dan Reed, said he has been receiving vitriolic messages from Jackson fans for months.

"They have a blind devotion to him," he said. "It's almost like it's a religious cult."

Superfandom - a relationship to a figure, object or ideology that often spills over into obsession - is nothing new, said media scholar Paul Booth of Chicago's DePaul University, but social media has increased its visibility.

"Fans have always had disagreements and antagonisms," Booth said, "but the difference today is people who aren't fans have ready access to view it."

The Internet, he said, allows entry into "fan communities", heightening feelings of identification and a need to defend.

"When our object of fandom, which we have associated so much with who we are, is accused of something heinous, it some ways we want to deny that because it seems to reflect on us as people," Booth said.

Today, he said "it's not enough to mount a defence," as social media discourse offers a platform to "attack back."

"The best defence is a good offense" to many superfans, Booth said, calling this attitude "the basis of toxic fandom."

For digital media scholar Mel Stanfill of the University of Central Florida, the online venom is encouraged by "the shifting way people converse."

"You can just fire it off," she said. "You don't reflect, you just react."

"Our expectations about what is socially appropriate has changed."

Views on whether Jackson molested children or not are completely polarised. The graphic details from the two men, plus the accusations of others, do not deserve to be completely dismissed. But then again, without concrete proof, the only conclusion is that the star should be given the benefit of doubt and be allowed to rest in peace. For now. 🌐



► Jackson was a child star



► Jackson with Jimmy Safechuck, 10, in 1988

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CROSSWORD

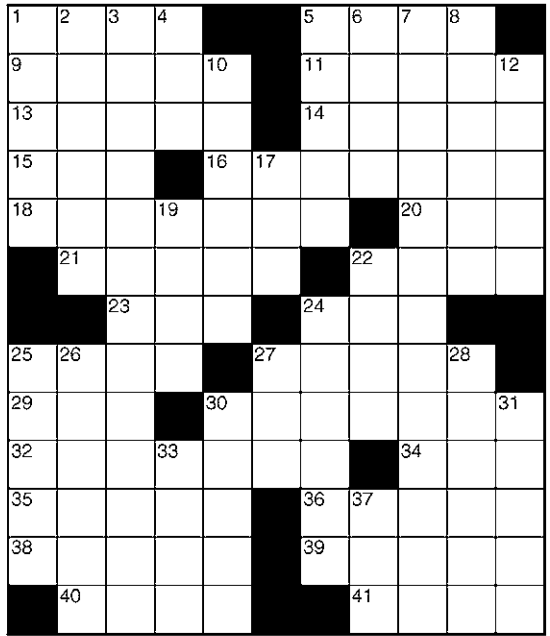
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 39 Oscar winner
 - 1 Clutter
 - 5 "Shane" star
 - 9 Spoken
 - 11 Stay away from
 - 13 Extra-large
 - 14 Edison's — Park
 - 15 Exalted verse
 - 16 Gruesome
 - 18 Tells
 - 20 Slugger Ott
 - 21 Backless sofa
 - 22 Flight cost
 - 23 Tapped item
 - 24 Stir-fry pan
 - 25 Turn suddenly
 - 27 Comic strip section
 - 29 New Haven student
 - 30 D.C. sur-rounder
 - 32 Regain
 - 34 Dined
 - 35 Post-workout woes
 - 36 North Pole workers
 - 38 Lifted
- DOWN**
- 1 Course of study
 - 2 Dodged
 - 3 1959 Tony Curtis movie
 - 4 Long sandwich
 - 5 Eastern monks
 - 6 Birds, to biologists
 - 7 1967 Tony Curtis movie
 - 8 Comic Phyllis
 - 10 GI ID
 - 12 Holmes' creator
 - 17 Rooster's mate
 - 19 Declare
 - 22 Type-setting choice
 - 24 Alternative to a cane
 - 25 Gambling mecca
 - 26 Chooses
 - 27 Chest muscle
 - 28 New news
 - 30 More vile
 - 31 Agreeable answers
 - 33 Composer Bartók
 - 37 Island ring



Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



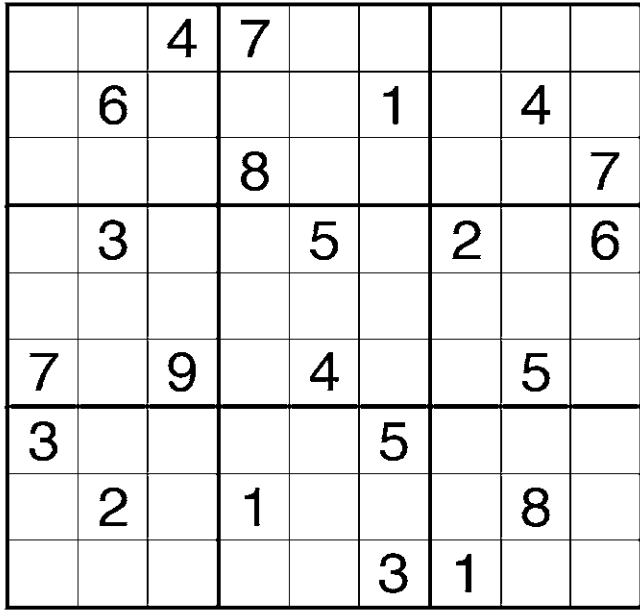
7-13

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 ★★★★★

6/17

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Word Search



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

- Auger
- Borer
- Brace
- Burin
- Chisel
- Clamp
- Cleaver
- Drill
- File
- Flail
- Gimlet
- Gouge
- Hammer
- Hatchet
- Knife
- Lathe
- Mallet
- Pick
- Plane
- Punch
- Rake
- Rasp
- Sander
- Spade
- Spanner
- Spud
- Wrench



CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



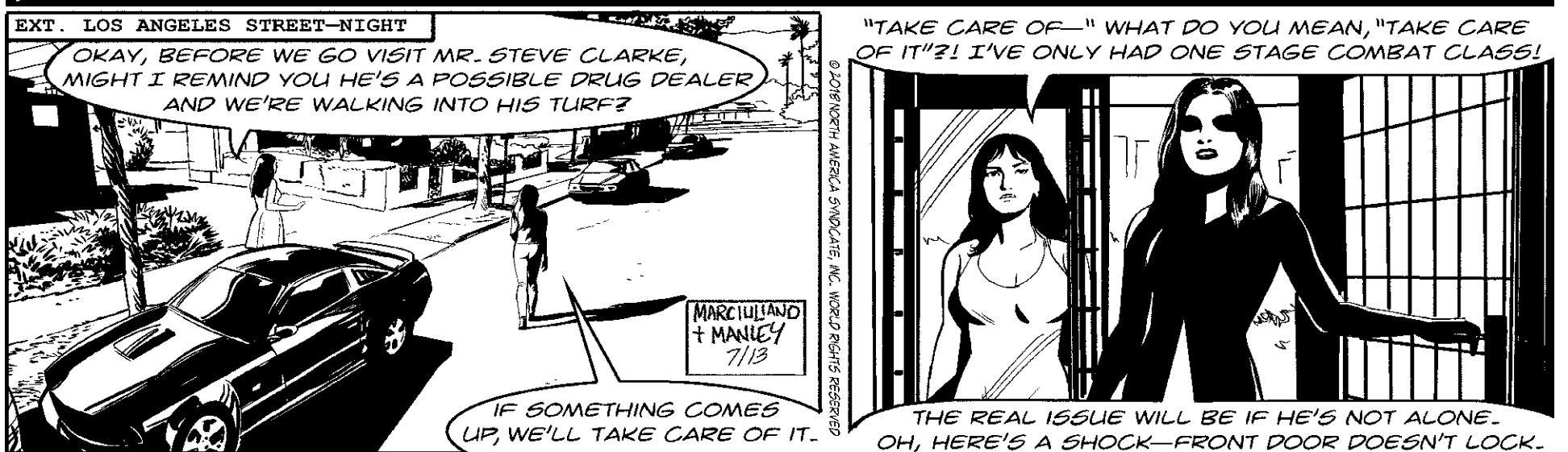
THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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1/2 Page \$1999

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