

# T Caymanian Times

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GET THE FACTS

For the latest, accurate information on the Coronavirus (COVID19), please visit

[gov.ky/Coronavirus](http://gov.ky/Coronavirus)

Complimentary

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Finance Ministry Gets Positive Audit

## Cayman Under Curfew

The Cayman Islands is under a 9pm to 5am curfew effective Tuesday March 24th for the next 10 days.

The decision, announced by His Excellency the Governor Martyn Roper came as he announced that the number of COVID-19 cases in Cayman has increased from three to five.

The curfew will be reviewed every 48 hours.

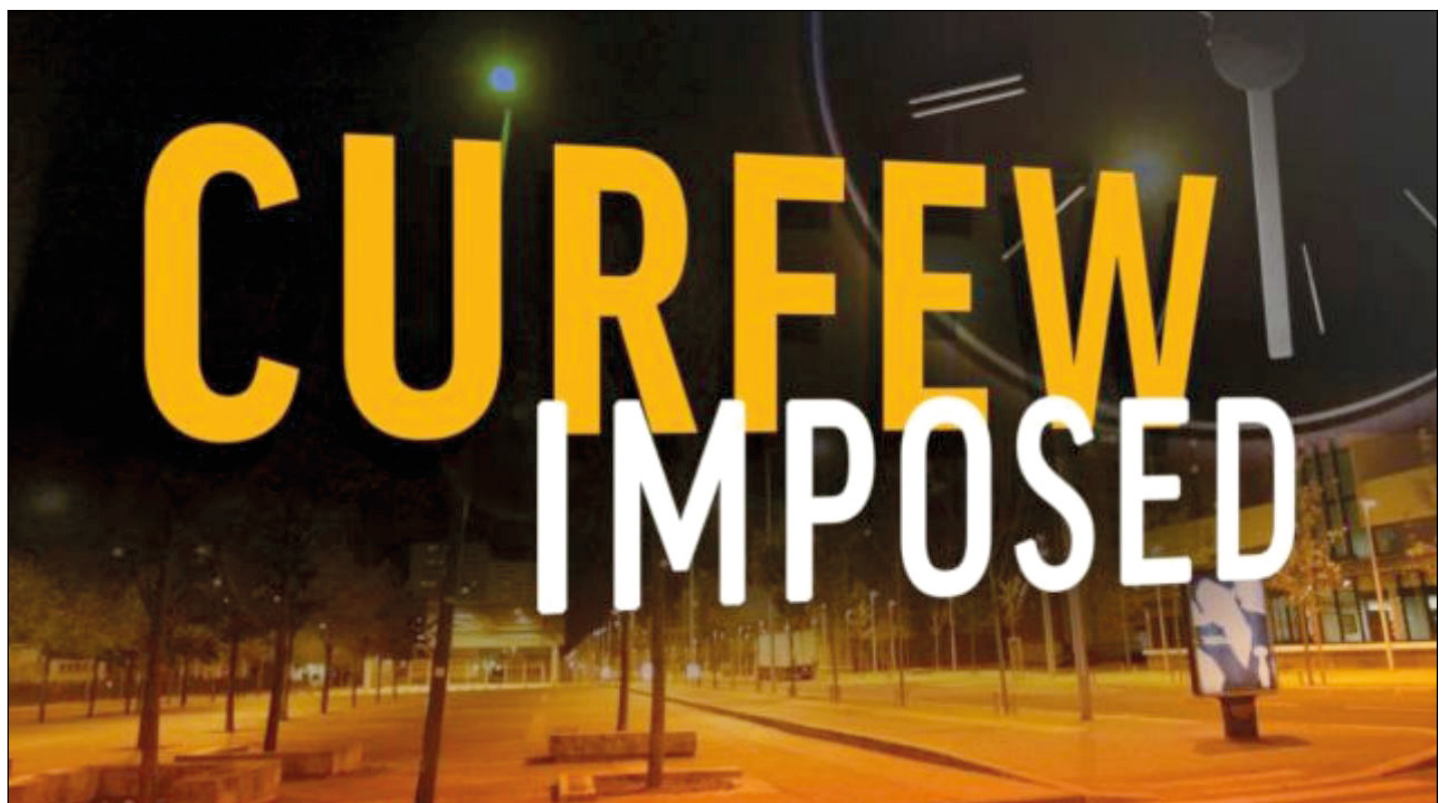
While a State of Emergency has not been declared the Governor said that possibility is under review.

Governor Roper said the islands are not being shut down but considering the large numbers of people who returned over the weekend, it was necessary to take steps to discourage large gatherings risking the further spread of the disease.

He also said the next ten days would be critical in determining what further steps might be necessary.

The gravity of the situation facing the Cayman Islands was forcefully and pas-

... Continued story on page A3



## Supermarkets set purchase limits

Over the last two weeks, the island has watched as cases of COVID-19 spread across the globe forcing countries to close borders and take drastic measures to protect their citizens. Around the world, disinfectants, shelf-stable grocery items and analgesics have been in extremely high demand putting strain on manufacturing and supply chains.

Foster's Supermarket, Priced Right, Kirk Market, and Hurley's Marketplace locations, effective Monday, March 23rd:

still receiving multiple shipments per week, the challenges they continue to face to ensure products are on the shelves are many. In an effort to ensure product is available for as many of our country's citizens as possible, they have decided to implement the following product limits across all Foster's Supermarket, Priced Right, Kirk Market, and Hurley's Marketplace locations, effective Monday, March 23rd:

... Continued story on page A4



## Grand Cayman Business Blackout



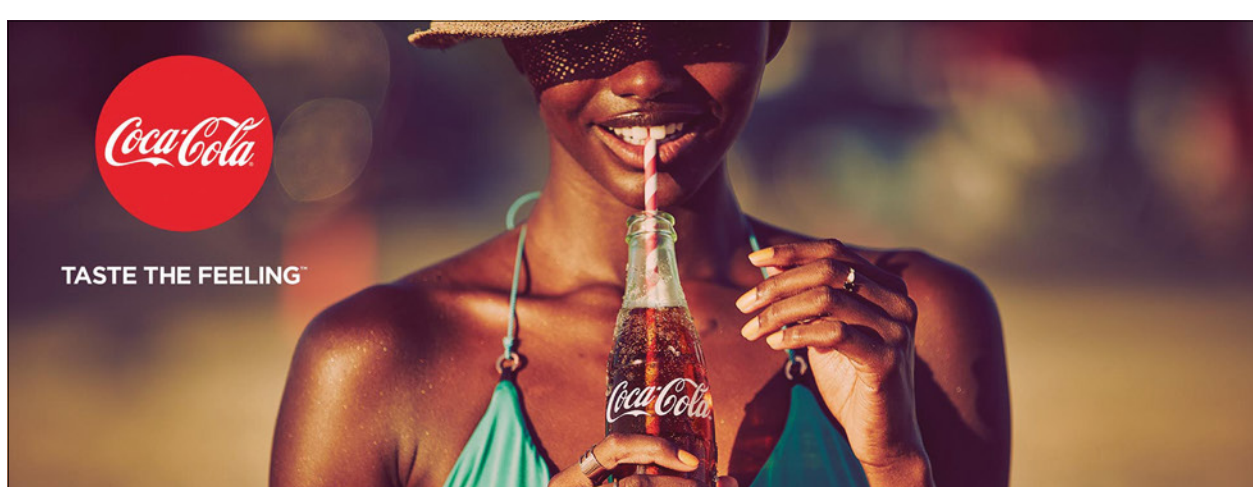
The Cayman Islands Cayman has closed all but essential businesses as of 11.59 on Sunday 22nd March.

As the world reels from the omnipresent threat of Corona Virus (Covid 19) and countries take unprecedented measures to curb its spread, an order to cease business on the Island and other activities has been issued to bars; nightclubs; sports group meetings; gyms; spas; public and strata swimming pools; cinemas; theaters; galleries; playgrounds; tourist attractions; beauty salon's; barber shops; tattoo parlors.

Gatherings of persons exceeding 50 individuals are also outlawed, with penalties of 6 months in prison or CI\$1,000 in fines to be levied for those who do not comply.

Seated dining at any venue serving food or drink is also not permitted during the business 'blackout' amid fears of possible widespread transmission of the virus in the community.

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## New Confidential Mental Health Helpline Launches

Persons having difficulty coping and managing stress during these difficult times can call a new confidential mental health helpline operated by the Cayman Islands Government in collaboration with private partners. The number is 1-800-534-6463 and hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Additional hours will be added as needed. 🌐

## Cayman Islands Blood Bank remains open for donations

The Cayman Islands Blood Bank would like to advise the public that it will remain open for donations and is encouraging members of the public who are eligible to continue to donate blood.

While some healthcare services have been cancelled or reduced to minimise potential transmission of COVID-19 the blood bank remains fully operational at the Cayman Islands Hospital.

“Blood donation is still necessary to ensure we have adequate supply on island for any medical emergencies requiring lifesaving blood transfusion. We are appealing to eligible donors of all blood types to make donations, in particular those who are O Negative. We also want to ensure the public that it is safe to donate blood as COVID-19 is not a blood borne illness,” said Blood Bank Manager, Judith Clarke. “The Blood Bank, which operates out of the Health Services Authority’s JCI Accredited lab, follows the highest standards to ensure donors can give blood in a safe and controlled environment.”

“We often conduct blood drives on-site at businesses within the community, however since many businesses are

operating remotely, the Blood Bank is missing an opportunity to host these blood drives. Some states in the US are also starting to see shortages of blood supplies, so for these reasons we encourage all eligible donors to continue donating during this time.”

To find out if you are eligible to donate, please visit the website [www.bloodbank.ky](http://www.bloodbank.ky) or call 244-2674.

One blood donation can help save up to three lives. Men can donate every three months and women every four months.

The Cayman Islands Hospital has heightened measures for persons entering the facility, therefore blood donors should use the entrance to the left of accident and emergency where a member of security will provide escort to the blood bank. Parking is available in the designated Blood Donor spots outside A&E or in the Seventh Day Adventist Church parking lot.

Those who are eligible to donate blood can book an appointment on [www.bloodbank.ky](http://www.bloodbank.ky) or call 244-2674. Opening hours are Monday - Friday 7am - 6:30pm and Saturday 9am - 5pm. 🌐



The Cayman Islands Bankers' Association

### ADVISORY

#### Retail Banks Branch Operating Hours

As COVID-19 continues to impact our community, the Cayman Island Banker’s Association member Retail Banks remain committed to your banking needs while taking precautionary measures to minimize the spread of the virus while protecting customers and their staff.

In view of this Branch Operations have been reduced to the following hours effective Monday, March 23rd 2020 until further notice:

**Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Priority will be given to seniors and those considered higher risk from 9:00AM to 10:00AM

Customers are encouraged to make use of their bank’s electronic banking services wherever possible. These include Bill Payments, Bank Transfers and Electronic Funds Transfers via Online Banking as well as making cash withdrawals and deposits at ATMs.

CIBA and its Member Retail Banks support and encourage your adherence to the established social distancing guidelines.

This message is sponsored by our member retail banks:



## NAU to Give Extra Support to Clients with School-Age Children

The Needs Assessment Unit (NAU) is aware that there is a pressing need for additional support to families whose children were receiving school lunch assistance through the NAU or Feed Our Future (FoF).

Given that schools are now closed, the Unit will endeavour to assist Caymani-

an families in need with a food stipend to ensure these children are adequately nourished during the period that schools are out. Families are also encouraged to use other community support that is being extended.

The NAU will be contacting families directly. 🌐

## COVID-19 Public Notice

The public is reminded that at 11:59pm Sunday night, 22 March 2020 the following closures take effect:

- All gyms and indoor leisure facilities; all bars; spas, including mobile spas; public swimming pools, private strata pools; cinemas, theatres, and concert halls; playgrounds; tourist attractions; museums and galleries; all categories of beauty salon, all barbershops and tattoo parlours.

In addition:

- Restaurants may only offer takeout and delivery.
- No sports group meetings of any kind may be organised.

Anyone found to be in breach of this law may face up to \$1000 in fines and six months in prison.

For more information read the Public Health (Control and Suppression of COVID-19) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020

[gov.ky/coronavirus](http://gov.ky/coronavirus)



## Public Warned About Account Impersonating Minister

The public is advised to remain alert and vigilant to individuals attempting to take advantage of uncertainty during the current coronavirus situation.

Reports have emerged of a fake account claiming to be from Minister O’Connor Connolly approaching members of the public about a cash grant from the department of health and human services. The account goes on to offer the individual a link to apply.

The information contained in the message is incorrect and poses a potential risk to individuals who go on to click the link.

The public are reminded to look to official sources for information on government financial support.

For information about government support offered to individuals facing financial difficulty due to coronavirus, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus). For information about other financial support offered by the government, please contact the Needs Assessment Unit on 946-0024.

It is a crime to produce and share dis-information in the Cayman Islands. The matter has been shared with the Chief Information Security Officer for the Cayman Islands Government and RCIPS for investigation. 🌐

# CAYMAN UNDER CURFEW

... Continued story from page A1

sionately driven home by Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin.

The Premier announced a further tightening up of restrictions in addition to the curfew with a new series of measures which take immediate effect.

He announced that Cabinet has decided to reduce the maximum number of persons assembling in groups from 50 to 10, except for workplaces.

Public transportation is being suspended for the next two weeks except taxis who are restricted to two passengers with adequate spacing.

The curfew and other measures will be enforced by the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service.

Premier McLaughlin sounded a note of caution regarding usage of the beaches where he observed that there were many examples of "irresponsible behaviour" by many people including those who he felt would know better.

In reprimanding those engaged in such conduct, the Premier was at pains to remind of the importance of social

distancing to prevent the spreading of COVID-19.

Speaking about the importance of the beaches to community life, the Premier said if the trend continues of people flouting the regulations, the Government will be left with no alternative but to close the beaches.

Premier McLaughlin said the intensified actions now being instituted reflect the seriousness of the situation and are necessary actions to slow the spread of the disease and to curb the chances of community transmission.

Meanwhile, in the UK, Prime Minister Boris Johnson put the country under lockdown on Monday.

Gatherings are limited to two people in public and police will have the power to enforce by dispersing groups and issuing fines.

People will only be allowed to leave their home for essential shopping for basic necessities including medicines, and travelling to work only as necessary.

The UK lockdown will be in place for three weeks initially. 🌐



► Derek Byrne, Police Commissioner of the Cayman Islands

## Official Opposition recommends additional COVID-19 financial relief initiatives

The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. V. Arden McLean, JP, MLA on Monday wrote to the Hon. Premier to recommend measures aimed at reducing the spread of the virus and providing much needed financial relief for Caymanians and residents.

In his letter, Mr. McLean notes that Cayman also needs to play its part in slowing the spread of the virus and must therefore address the poor living conditions for many people. He also acknowledges the Government's efforts so far in providing economic relief have mainly focused on the Indigent, Seamen, NAU clients, elderly and persons employed in the water sports and transport sectors but called for a number of initiatives geared towards providing some economic relief for working class Caymanians and residents to be implemented.

Mr. McLean explains, "From the outset, the Official Opposition had regular discussions on this issue with people both here and overseas as sadly, the writing was on the wall that it would turn into a global pandemic. Whilst we are indeed living in unprecedented times, it also gives us an opportunity to re-write several policies that were unfair and frankly did nothing to address the hardship being faced by our people. Our goal is to ensure that Cayman not only weathers this crisis, but, emerge stronger as well. This pandemic is a global fight, and

Cayman needed to do its part in slowing the spread. This means addressing the uncomfortable knowledge that we have many people living in overcrowded and substandard living conditions. It also requires Government ensuring that the Insurance companies follow the lead of other industries and put people before profit."

The Opposition was therefore calling on the Government to implement a series of bold initiatives as follows:

1. Allow persons employed in the Private Sector to withdraw up to CI\$850 per month from their pensions over the next six months.
2. Implement a "Pension Holiday" for the next six months, with the added caveat that either employees or employers can opt out if they choose to.
3. Allow business owners, the ability to access their personal pensions to alleviate business related financial hardships.
4. Increase the "Hardship Allowance", which is currently funded by the Government budget, and ease the requirements to qualify for this allowance, to assist many of our Public Servants who may be impacted by this crisis.
5. Require the Insurance companies to follow other industries and put people before profit.
6. Activate the Price Gouging Control (Emergency Circumstances) Law (2015 Revision), and appointing the Price

Gouging Control Commission, with immediate effect.

7. Explore re-housing people living in overcrowded and substandard living conditions in the empty rooms of our hotels and condos.

Alva Suckoo, MLA, Newlands said: "While many public servants may have job security during this time, many of their partners may be impacted by this crisis. We do not believe that they should be using the limited resources of the Needs Assessment Unit (NAU) and believe that both the "Hardship Allowance" and the requirements to qualify for this allowance be eased to allow many of our public servants who may be impacted by this crisis to receive assistance."

Chris Saunders, MLA, Bodden Town West said: "We do not know how long this global crisis is going to last, or the total impact it will have on our economy. Therefore, it is imperative that people have access to their cash and not be dependent on the Government. We have mandated that people save for the rainy days, albeit in their retirement age. However, this crisis is a tsunami. In addition to a pension holiday, we want people to be able to withdraw up to CI\$850 from their pension for 6 months. With the markets in free fall and interest rates being close to zero, there is no point in asking people to invest over there when we need the money now at home, here in the Cayman Islands."



► Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. V. Arden McLean, JP, MLA

Bernie Bush, MLA, West Bay North said: "Many small business owners reached out to us, stating the need to access their pension funds to meet their current payroll needs. We are therefore asking that the Department of Commerce and Investments (DCI) reach out to these small businesses. Their sacrifice is worthy of consideration and the last thing we need is to have more people on the unemployment line."

Anthony Eden, MLA, Savannah said: "Our people, Caymanians and non-Caymanians, are hard-working and will never ever want to find themselves in a position where they are dependent on the public purse to maintain their quality of life. We therefore call upon the Government to implement the initiatives we have set out. Not only are they fair but will also allow our people to maintain their dignity and compassion during these troubling times." 🌐



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# Caymanian Times



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# CAYMAN SUPERMARKETS SET PRODUCT LIMITS

## *Supermarkets set purchase limits on grocery, frozen and HBC department items*

... Continued story from page A1

- Limit 2 products, per UPC, per customer on the entire grocery, frozen, and health & beauty care department items.
- The meat, seafood, produce, dairy, deli and bakery departments will remain limit free.

As an example, a customer can purchase two Quaker Instant Oatmeal Original Flavor, two Quaker Instant Oatmeal Variety Packs, and two Tombstone Frozen Pizzas at the same time. All Foster's Supermarket, Hurley's Marketplace, Kirk Market, and Priced Right locations will implement the above limits.

While this limit may seem like it could be cause for panic, it's not. Shipments are still coming in multiple times a week and the supermarkets are still sourcing product from any quality source they can. They have come together to help ensure product is available for as many people as possible during this uncertain time. Putting the product limits in place



stops panic buying and should keep products on the shelf longer. In speaking with their suppliers, they will continue to get product and shipping lines continue to say that the ships will sail.

They continue to urge people to look at their shopping and consumption habits during this time, and plan for the coming weeks. While the uncertainty around COVID-19 remains, customers can rest assured that the supermarkets

in Cayman are taking action to keep shelves stocked and stores clean for customers.

They have indicated in their communication that they remain committed to providing the best service possible, and ask that the community remain calm, think rationally and use proper hygiene practices throughout the day. They recommend designating one shopper per household to reduce the number of peo-

ple in store and avoid doubling up on items. When in store, maintain safe social distancing, use a debit or credit card to pay when possible, and sanitize your hands and the shopping cart or basket handles when entering the store.

Customers with questions on product availability can speak to team members in store, email the store directly or reach out to the supermarket's respective social media channels. 🌐

# LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT

Feeling afraid, trapped or silenced through physical, financial or emotional abuse is control...**not love.**

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre offers services to help victims of domestic violence.

*24 Hour Crisis Line* - 943-2422

*24/7 Safe Shelter* - safe house for women and their children

*Estella's Place* - walk-in centre for all victims of domestic abuse

*Aftercare Programme* - for victims after leaving the shelter

**If you are a victim of domestic violence, contact us now and find out how we can help.**



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# Cayman Islands Business Blackout

... Continued story from page A1

The measures come on the heels of the Cayman Islands government also stopping the entry of all overseas visitors via flights at the Owen Roberts International Airport and a 60 day stoppage of all cruise ships.

Over the past few days the government has only allowed Caymanian students to return from studies overseas in hard hit places such as the United Kingdom.

Several empty flights coming into Grand Cayman on Saturday 21st March were only making 'runs' to take persons off the Island, according to officials.

Measures affecting business as usual in the British Overseas Territory to take effect during the late hours of Sunday night are especially timely, as a student in one of the isolation facilities provided by the Government was taken to the

Cayman Islands Hospital for assessment on Saturday evening (21st March).

The student was taken to hospital by ambulance and now remains in isolation.

"All medical staff and vehicles in contact with the student have taken necessary precautions to prevent onward transmission of any infectious condition. Appropriate contact tracing will take place in any case deemed necessary," according to a statement issued via Public Health.

All students and residents arriving home this week have been asked to self-isolate and are being asked to alert Public Health authorities immediately if they develop any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

The students at the isolation facility were screened prior to departure from the airport and they are required to be in regular contact with medical



professionals while they remain in isolation.

Travelers returning home from overseas were also asked to not travel to the

Sister Islands, where there is a large population of elderly persons whom may be particularly susceptible to the virus' symptoms.



# ALL OPTIONS ON THE TABLE

The Cayman Islands is not ruling out calling on the British government for financial support in some form as it grapples with the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

London has indicated that it will look sympathetically on such a request.

Hon. Premier Alden McLaughlin has confirmed that the UK fall-back option is on the table and His Excellency, Governor Martyn Roper, has assured that the UK response would be favourable.

Although Cayman is in a strong financial position with a budgetary surplus and reserves to cover at least three months, Premier McLaughlin has said that he was not ruling out the possibility of a prolonged slowdown.

He said the priority to is secure jobs and keep public services running.

Addressing the options available to the territory, the Premier said a range of possibilities are under consideration.

“What we cannot allow is for Government to become cash-strapped so that we can’t pay our outgoings and we can’t support our people in this time of need.

“We will do everything we have to do and call on the UK to assist us in that regard,” he said.

Mr McLaughlin said the type of support he is considering was not necessarily direct funding but “to relax ratios around public finances so that we can do what we need to do to get through this time.”

Governor Roper in lending his support said, “the UK is already very carefully looking into all that, and of course will be very sympathetic to the situation that all the Overseas territories face, so I don’t envisage that being a problem.”

With the cancellation of this month’s Joint Ministerial Council meeting, the UK Overseas Territories Minister Lizz Sugg had given a commitment that Britain would support the territories through this crisis.

That support is predicated more towards the immediate healthcare challenges.



► Opposition Leader Hon. Arden McLean

The unexpected onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic is already threatening to send the UK and OTs economies into a tailspin.

In the UK, the Boris Johnson administration making unprecedented levels of interventions to prevent the economy from going into free-fall.

## CAYMAN CORPORATE INITIATIVES

In Cayman, Premier McLaughlin has reported that amid the still-unfolding COVID-19 crisis, there were encouraging initiatives coming from the business sector.

In what he referred to as “some good news”, Mr McLaughlin reported that on measures being taken by the banks, Cayman Water Company and the fuel supplier Rubis.

“I am really happy to say that I am so pleased that corporate Cayman is so conscious of the need to help everyone get through these most difficult economic times that are yet to come.”

He announced that Cayman National Bank will offer a three-month payment holiday to current borrowers and Cayman Water Company will suspend disconnections for at least 60 days and offer payment plans.

The fuel-supplier Rubis has reduced the rack rate of fuel by 40 cents a gallon and is urging retailers to pass on the saving at the motorists.

Premier McLaughlin has applauded has these initiatives.



► His Excellency, Governor Martyn Roper

“Those provisions are going to offer major breaks to all of us as we struggle through what is bound to be a difficult economic period for the foreseeable future.”

On the question of tax waivers on fuel duty to reduce electricity bills, the Premier is of the view that reducing the current rate of 25 cents a gallon would have little or no effect.

He said a main concern for Government was the likelihood of job losses and how best the government could shore up businesses and secure employment.

## CROSS-PARTY OUTREACH

Mr McLaughlin also disclosed that given the scale of the challenge now confronting the Cayman Islands due to COVID-19, he is taking the unusual step of inviting the Opposition to upcoming meetings he is convening with Cabinet and the Caucus to discuss the territory’s response and long term outlook.

“These are issues that deserve and warrant national discussion and so we certainly want to involve the Opposition in those talks,” he said.



► Hon. Premier Alden McLaughlin

According to the Premier, “Even if this epidemic were to come to a screeching halt in a month’s time, what’s happening more broadly to the global economy will take much longer to come back anywhere near where it is now.

“We all have to plan and make provisions for what are going to be very lean times through the end of the year at least,” he said.

The state of government finances is also to be discussed in a special meeting being planned to look at the broad economic implications of the slowdown caused by the COVID-19 crisis.

While he again reminded that while Government’s financial situation is still robust due to fiscal prudence practised over the past seven years, the Premier noted that significant challenges lie ahead.

“Tourism is in tatters, providing no income and financial services are likely to be affected over time.”

He said that Government needs to plan to make sure that Government is in a position to pay bills and salaries, and “to do what is necessary to help our people just survive in this difficult time”. 🌐

# Cayman Immigration and Employment Questions Arising out of Covid-19

By Nick Joseph (HSM Partner) and Hilary Brooks (HSM Associate – Employment)

HSM’s Employment (<https://hsmoffice.com/law/employment-law/>) and Immigration (<https://hsmoffice.com/law/immigration-law/>) lawyers are advising a number of persons and businesses as to the requirements and expectations of the Law when businesses are required to make staff redundant.

Redundancy is defined in Cayman Islands Law as “a situation in which, by virtue of a lack of customers or of orders, retrenchment, the installation of labour-saving machinery an employer’s going out of business, force majeure or any other reason, tasks which a person was last employed to perform no longer exist.”

## Cayman Islands Labour Law

A redundancy is a form of “fair dismissal” provided it is carried out in accordance with the Labour Law. The Law provides for preference in employment. If a group of persons carrying out a specific role within an organization are to be made redundant, the Law requires that preference be given according to immigration status. It follows that work permit holders are expected to be made redundant before permanent residents, permanent residents are expected to be made redundant before the spouse of a Caymanian holding a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, and Caymanians are expected, by Law, to be the last to face redundancy. This is entirely academic if a business is closing down. All persons (without regard to immigration status) will likely be made redundant together. That is perfectly lawful.

Given that a redundancy constitutes a form of termination, it triggers a series of entitlements.

These include severance pay, notice pay, and accrued (but untaken) vacation pay.

Severance Pay is calculated as being one week’s pay, at the latest “basic wage”, for each completed year of service. “Basic wage” means the ordinary wage due to an employee under his or her contract of employment. It does not include such matters as future anticipated gratuities and commissions. Accordingly, for many, the basic wage will be CI\$6.00 (or such other higher number set out in their contract of employment.

Where no formal contract exists, the amount can be determined by reference to the conduct of the employer and employee – i.e. what is the basic wage that has in fact been paid.

Notice pay is determined by reference to the contract of employment. Where no notice period is prescribed it is deemed to be the interval between pay days.

Accordingly (by way of example) an employee who is made redundant on 31 March and who:

- a) has been employed by that employer for 3 years and 2 months
- b) earns CI\$6.00 per hour at basic wage for a 40 hour week (CI\$12,480 per annum); and
- c) has a 10 day annual vacation entitlement and has taken none this year; would generally expect to be entitled to payment on redundancy of:
  - 1) 3 weeks severance of CI\$720
  - 2) One month’s notice pay of CI\$1,040 (assuming the employee is not asked to work during their notice period); and
  - 3) 2.5 days accrued but untaken vacation pay of CI\$120.

A person in this situation would accordingly expect payment on redundancy of CI\$1,880. Such payment is payable immediately on termination.

## National Pensions Law

There is generally no entitlement to access pension monies prior to retirement. However, severance payments made on redundancy are not pensionable, but accrued untaken vacation pay, and any payment due in lieu of notice, are considered to be pensionable under the National Pensions Law. Also it should be noted that any additional voluntary contributions made by the employee can be withdrawn due to unemployment.

## Health Insurance Law

All residents in the Cayman Islands are required to have “adequate” health insurance. As a general rule the obligation to ensure that health insurance is in place rests with employers. Upon termination of employment employers are generally required to ensure that health insurance is maintained for 3 months following the termination of employment. Employers are however entitled to charge those premiums to the employee. The employer’s obligation to maintain health insurance ends upon the person becoming employed else-



► Nick Joseph, HSM Partner



► Hilary Brooks, HSM Associate – Employment

where, being covered by an alternative qualifying policy of insurance, upon the expiry of 3 months, or upon the person leaving the Cayman Islands (whichever happens first). It follows that it may be of direct economic benefit for persons who held work permits, but who have been made redundant (or otherwise terminated), to leave the Islands as soon as practicable.

## Immigration Law

Regulation 9 of the Immigration Regulations provides that where a person on a work permit is no longer employed, any work permit ceases to be valid, and the employer must forthwith notify the Department of Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman. Redundant employees who were on a work permit to be in Cayman have no right to remain once their employment ends. In normal circumstances that means that persons are expected to register as tourists and remain in accordance with permissions extended by WORC/Customs and Border Control. Customs and Border Control have announced that where a permission to work in Cayman ends before 22 March persons can simply proceed to leave before the anticipated 22 March, 2020 closure, without first having to “regularize” their permission to be in the Islands.

As matters stand, no expatriate can work in the Cayman Islands without express permission or exemption from requirements. It will not be impossible for an expatriate made redundant to seek and obtain alternative employment without first having to leave, and if normal rules continue to apply, Caymanians, Spouses of Caymanians and Permanent Residents will be given preference for any opportunity.

## Rent

The obligation to pay rent will be based on the terms of any applicable lease. In normal circumstances appropriate notice will need to be given, and deposits may be forfeited if notice is not given or there is damage to the rented unit. Some leases may provide for the lease to end upon the termination of a work permit.

## Repatriation

Unless provided for by contract, there is no obligation on an employer to ensure that an expatriate employee is able to return to their home country. It is worthy to note that employers have paid substantial “repatriation fees” to the Cayman Islands Government in the expectation that those funds could be applied towards the costs associated with workers getting to their homeland. For some, returning home is not a reasonable possibility. It requires closed third party borders to be crossed, even if flights are available. They may be stuck in Cayman, perhaps for an extended period. The Government has recognized this and it, employers, and the community will have to come together (maintaining social distancing) to ensure that everyone’s basic needs can be met.

We are ultimately, all in this together.

*This article is intended only to provide a summary of the subject matter. It does not purport to be comprehensive or to provide legal advice. No person should act in reliance on any statement contained in this article without first obtaining specific professional advice. Alternative solutions also exist which may better suit the requirements of a particular individual or entity.* 🌐

# Education, Agriculture Updates for COVID-19

Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly provided an update on a number of measures taken by the various departments under her remit yesterday (Friday, 20 March 2020).

The Minister was speaking at the daily press conference to announce and share information about daily developments in Government's dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here are the highlights of some departments' actions so far, as provided by the Minister.

## Education:

- All schools officially closed on Monday 16 March 2020 and are set to reopen on 27 April 2020.
- Through surveys that complete today, the department is learning about technology access by parents to be able to provide adequate support for parents during their children's ongoing home study programme.
- All government schools have implemented home learning contingencies for students through a range of channels including paper-based learning packages for those without internet, a daily timetable and access to online platforms.
- Similarly, the department has implemented a number of online platforms such as Everest and WhatsApp groups to communicate with parents.
- Department is still working to find out how school closure will affect external exams for high school leavers such as CXC, GCSE and A-Levels.
- UK has announced summer sittings of exams including GCSE and A-levels are cancelled in the UK but clarity on

how it will impact students in the Cayman Islands is being sought.

- Department is currently exploring access to CXC content through a public private sector partnership with FLOW which will allow exam students to continue learning and prepare for CXC syllabus.
- All teachers have access to platform ZOOM at no cost.
- Steps are being taken to expand the curriculum provision for online learning to continue.
- Parents are asked to create a quiet workspace for children at home away from distractions and encourage them to maintain good learning and working habits.
- Teachers will continue to communicate directly with students and parents through all means at their disposal.
- Parents who have not received home learning materials or have questions may contact the principal or director of their child's school.

## Returning Residents:

- Eight persons arriving today have opted to use the government provided dedicated isolation facility.
- There are 29 persons currently housed at the facility.
- Ministry team and volunteers have been at the airport since Thursday to welcome and assist the returning students.



► Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly addresses the COVID-19 update press conference on Friday, 20 March 2020 at GIS Studio in GAB (Photo by GIS)

- Bus contractors and janitorial teams have been deployed through the department.
- Buses are fully cleaned and sanitized after each trip.

## Scholarships:

- It is proposed to waive fees from 23 March to 30 April 2020 for students applying for full overseas and local transcripts.

## Free School Meals:

- Department has support from Kiwanis and Feed Our Future (FOF) to run a voucher and daily lunch programme.
- All primary school cafeteria providers are on board. FOF will pay cafeteria operators directly using existing protocols.
- FOF will purchase vouchers from Fosters and deliver to schools. They will also collect the Kiwanis vouchers.

## Agriculture:

- Operating hours of the various units and services under DoA, such as Administration, Nursery, Warehouse, Abattoir, Animal Control and Welfare services have been updated. This information is available on the Department of Agriculture (DoA) Facebook Page which is [www.facebook.com/agriculturecayman](http://www.facebook.com/agriculturecayman) and will also be available on [www.gov.ky](http://www.gov.ky) by the end of the Friday.
- Efforts to protect staff and customers are regularly updated on social media platforms including installation of an outside sales window in Cayman Brac, reduced hours and office closures.
- All vulnerable employees of Department of Agriculture (DoA) have been sent home to self-isolate. Others are monitored regarding further requests for isolation.
- Re-deployment has being activated internally.
- Flexible work arrangements have been arranged for staff to allow them to work remotely.
- DoA has increased its sanitization efforts and suggested preventative measures are still being practiced.
- DoA has significantly increased the ordering of feed and fertilizer.
- Despite significant increases in purchases, DoA has been able to service

every customer demand to date and are has adequate supplies on route.

- Every effort will be made to service commercial farmers as normal. Farmers who have ordered seedlings will be notified when they are ready for collection.
- The Animal Control and Welfare Services trapping service has been temporarily suspended.
- The Animal Rescue Shelter is closed.
- DoA will continue to monitor and address any serious animal welfare or control issues.
- The Farmers Market continues to operate as it is akin to a supermarket and is an essential food source. All

persons attending the market are asked to follow the CIG/HSA recommended actions regarding COVID.

## Water Authority:

- Water Authority closed its office to the public, effective today 20 March 2020, to protect the health and safety of customers and staff.
  - Penalties will be waived for the month of March.
  - The Authority has developed a COVID-19 Payment Deferral Policy for customers facing financial hardship due to Coronavirus pandemic. Customers can contact the Authority via email [info@waterauthority.ky](mailto:info@waterauthority.ky) or phone 949-2837 to discuss with a Customer Service Representative.
  - In the interest of public health, the Authority has postponed all disconnections until further notice. Customers who were previously disconnected, due to past non-payment, are asked to contact the Authority via email so that arrangements can be made to reconnect service. Email [info@waterauthority.ky](mailto:info@waterauthority.ky) or call 949-2837.
  - The Authority is providing essential services only. These are services that ensure customers have water supply and wastewater services.
  - There are a variety of ways for customers to make payments. Payments can be made online by visiting the Authority's website [www.waterauthority.ky](http://www.waterauthority.ky) or via local banks. Customers can pay with a cheque via the Authority's office drop-box. Cash payments can be made via local bank counters or the Post Office.
  - Water Authority staff will work in rotation, or remotely where possible.
- Responding to a question whether returning scholarship holders would be putting their scholarships in jeopardy if they breach self-isolation protocols, the Minister said each situation would depend on circumstances.
- However, criminal breaches were not a joke. "Government provides millions in scholarship funds in the budget, which is to the tune of \$10-12 million and the legitimate expectation is a level of responsibility by our students to follow the stipulated protocols. Prevention is everyone's business," the Minister added. 🌐



► Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly

# Message of Support and Encouragement to the Business Sector, Employees, and General Public

By MLA Ezzard Miller, North Side MLA

As the world grapples with the rapidly spreading Coronavirus, I am only too conscious of the impact this health emergency is already having on our Cayman Islands. I am particularly concerned for the business sector, especially for small businesses and their employees.

To small business owners, I assure you that I am very mindful that the Government shut down is placing tremendous strain on your business, its finances, and your employees.

I therefore wholeheartedly support Government's contemplation of a relief package.

While I am confident, however, that the Government will be as generous in its aid package as the Islands' finances allow, we are all in this together and each must do our part.

To big business, I appeal to you to put the country and its people first.

In keeping with the Caymanian tradition of altruism, I encourage you to rise above the letter of the law and to avoid enforcing sick leave or vacation, and to continue paying employees for as long as you can.

I hope, too, that all sectors of business and commerce will continue to devise creative arrangements for work to continue out of office or off site where there is reduced risk of exposure to the current health threat.

In particular, if you operate a business that has work permit holders, please remember that you are responsible for their being in Cayman and that your employees have contributed to your business's profitability.

That makes employers duty bound, legally and morally, to treat employees fairly and humanely.

I especially encourage you to be mindful of your employees' living conditions.

As the permit holder and as a public-spirited leader in the community, I know you will take seriously your responsibility to do whatever you can to alleviate living conditions that may place your employees' health at further risk.

To all employees: I encourage you to be considerate in your expectations from your employer.

Beyond the business side of this unfortunate and serious health risk, every one of us should take careful note of Government's instructions and health care professionals' advice, especially with regard to self-quarantining.

The Cayman Islands now has two confirmed cases only (traced to an imported case), and there is no sign so far of community spread. This says much about the effectiveness of the measures taken by Government and its health care leadership.

But we must individually do our part. We each have a responsibility to protect ourselves and our families, and our wider communities.

If and when we may have to venture from the security of our homes, please limit those excursions to essential activities, and be ever mindful of maintaining social distancing of six to ten feet.

We will thereby contribute to maintaining the population's health beyond our own households.

Importantly, also, we will each contribute to the optional functioning of our health professionals and our health facilities with its limited resources.

I urge that you take a moment, too, to be thoughtful about the health and wellbeing of others in our other essential services — our government frontline staff at



► Ezzard Miller, North Side MLA

the courts, the RCIPS, Fire Station, the Prisons, and the communications services, among many others. Please be especially considerate of the staff of the supermarkets that are continuing to serve us so heroically, as well as gas stations, pharmacies, and others.

The continued stability and steadiness of all these public and private essential services can only be maintained if each of us continues to be diligent in our responsibility to reduce any potential for the spread of this dangerous virus.

Indeed, let us continue to be concerned about and to pray for the health and wellbeing of all within these Islands and beyond our shores, as we all face this global threat.

Finally, I commend to you the very effective slogan "Catch it, Trash it, and Wash it".

Let us do all we can do to maintain our health, our families' and that of our communities. 🌐



► Department of Children and Family Service staff mark International Social Work Day on Tuesday, 17 March 2020 (Photo by GIS)

# DCFS Marks Int. Social Work Day With Parred Down Photo Opp.

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) staff marked International Social Work Day with a Dress for a Cause event on Tuesday, 17 March 2020.

The event was the first time that the U.N. observation was celebrated in the Cayman Islands. Members of the department's Elderly Services, Adoption and Foster Care, Youth Services, Family

Services, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (M.A.S.H.) and Community Development Teams were present. Attendees wore Social Work Month T-shirts, emblazoned with this year's theme: "Social Work Generations Strong."

Held at the department's new offices at 87 Mary Street, Apollo House East, the photo opp. was originally scheduled

to be held on the front step of the Government Administration Building. The change of venue was made to comply with the COVID-19 measures that prohibit gatherings of 50 or more persons.

"We wanted to acknowledge the last event that DCFS is able to hold for Social Work Month due to coronavirus. Our remaining events have been postponed

to a later date," said DCFS Director Mrs. Paulinda Mendoza-Williams.

"We are mindful that demand for our services will increase during this difficult time. I am confident that our staff and management will meet the challenge by addressing the needs of the community's most vulnerable members," she concluded.

**Caymanian Times**

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Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal)	500	10 x 9.9	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (Vertical)	500	4.9 x 20	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/3 page	400	Customized	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page	300	4.9 x 9.9	450
Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page	225	4.8 x 7.4	350
Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page	150	4.9 x 4.85	250
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Newspaper Advertisement 1/32 page	75	Customized	150
Newspaper Advertisement Mini	25	Customized	75
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Front Page Banner B Section	200	10 x 2.5	
Other Banner	100	10 x 2.5	
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Back Page B Section	500	10 x 20	
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# Finance Ministry Gets Positive Audit

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is the first entity in Government this year to get an "unqualified" audit report from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG).

While the report itself and its contents will be tabled in a coming meeting of the House, the Ministry has shared that the positive opinion was received promptly from the OAG on 6 March 2020, soon after the statutory deadline for submission of financial statements to the OAG, on 28 February 2020.

However, ministry officials state that their financial team submitted financials to the OAG on 29 January, which is nearly a month in advance of the prescribed deadline. The accounts submitted covered the core ministry and its departments comprising Risk Management, Treasury, Economics and Statistics Office, Postal Service, Central Procurement Office and Corporate Unit.

Speaking on behalf of the ministry and its departments, Minister for Fi-

nance and Economic Development, Hon. Roy McTaggart said, "We are extremely pleased to have the audit completed so promptly after the close of the financial year. The Ministry thanks the Audit Office for its efficiency in completing the audit which bodes well for public accountability. It is certainly the aim of the ministry to have our 2019 annual report which includes the audited financial statements, available for tabling at the next LA meeting."

Minister McTaggart added, "I am equally pleased that our ministry team was able to submit in advance of the deadline, which is in keeping with our aim to be expeditious."

Financial Secretary and Chief Officer, Mr. Kenneth Jefferson said, "During the 2019 financial year, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development was particularly pleased to have played a leading role in assisting the Government in producing its 2020 and 2021 budget. That was a major accomplishment during the 2019 financial year."



► Minister for Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Roy McTaggart

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# APPLEBY ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICE MANAGING PARTNER IN CAYMAN

Leading law firm Appleby has announced a number of high profile internal appointments to further strengthen its Cayman offering.

Bryan Hunter, who has worked in the Cayman office since 1997, most recently acting as Office Managing Partner and Local Corporate Practice Group Head in Cayman, as well as the Global Head of the Funds Team, is retiring from the practice at the end of March.

Norman Klein has been appointed as the new Office Managing Partner in Cayman and will focus on the commercial growth and day to day operations for the office.

Simon Raftopoulos has been appointed as Local Corporate Practice Group Head, responsible for the development of this market leading practice.

Andrew Weaver, who will be Local Corporate Practice Group Head of the Jersey Office as of 31 March, will take responsibility for the firm's global funds strategy.



► Bryan Hunter



► Norman Klein



► Simon Raftopoulos

Group Managing Partner at Appleby, Malcolm Moller commented: "Bryan has been with our Cayman office for almost 23 years. He has a strong family history with the firm, whose roots date back to when Bryan's grandfather was appoint-

ed as a law agent in the 1940s, who then formally started the firm (as Hunter & Hunter) alongside Bryan's father in 1965. The vast wealth of knowledge Bryan holds alongside his strong connection to the firm will be greatly missed by all

of us at Appleby. Norman and Simon are a great team and I am very much looking forward to working with them to embrace all of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, both locally and globally for Appleby." [🌐](#)

## RBC Royal Bank takes decisive action to help clients impacted by COVID-19

RBC Royal Bank (RY on TSX and NYSE) ("RBC") announced plans to provide financial relief to its Caribbean clients impacted by the ongoing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic.

Effective immediately, most RBC Personal banking clients in the Caribbean will benefit from an automatic three-month payment deferral on credit facilities. Business and Corporate banking clients are also eligible for the relief program, following individual eligibility assessments with an RBC representative. **Automatic payment deferrals will be applied as of March 17, 2020 and remain in effect until June 30, 2020, or until further advised.**

**To be eligible for the program, Personal banking or Business and Corporate banking client accounts must be current and in good standing as of March 2, 2020. Clients who are already participating in RBC relief programs for other circumstances are excluded from this program.**

The relief program is intended to provide flexible solutions and help clients manage through the impacts of COVID-19, such as pay disruption; childcare disruption due to school closures; or dealing with the COVID-19 illness itself.

These measures are an important first step and underscore the resilience of the financial system and the critical role banks play in the economy. RBC will continue to monitor COVID-19 and the evolving economic conditions in each country and territory where the bank operates. RBC may consider other relief measures, if necessary.

RBC has a long history of standing by Caribbean clients through challenging times and this commitment will continue throughout this crisis and beyond.

### About RBC in the Caribbean

With more than 110 years of dedicated service to the region, RBC has a presence in 17 countries and territories, with 52 branches and over 3,000 employees serving more than one million clients. As one of the Caribbean's leading diversified financial services companies, RBC provides personal and commercial banking, wealth management, corporate and investment banking, insurance and trust and asset management services to a wide range of clients, including individuals, small businesses, general commercial entities, regional and multi-national corporations and governments. For more information, please visit [rbc.com/caribbean](http://rbc.com/caribbean).



### About RBC

Royal Bank of Canada is a global financial institution with a purpose-driven, principles-led approach to delivering leading performance. Our success comes from the 86,000+ employees who bring our vision, values and strategy to life so we can help our clients thrive and communities prosper. As Canada's biggest bank, and one of the largest in the world based on market capitalization,

we have a diversified business model with a focus on innovation and providing exceptional experiences to our 16 million clients in Canada, the U.S. and 33 other countries. Learn more at [rbc.com](http://rbc.com).

We are proud to support a broad range of community initiatives through donations, community investments and employee volunteer activities. See how at [rbc.com/community-sustainability](http://rbc.com/community-sustainability) [🌐](#)

## RBC Royal Bank announces temporary branch changes to help protect clients and employees

RBC Royal Bank (RY on TSX and NYSE) ("RBC") announced plans to provide financial relief to its Caribbean clients impacted by the ongoing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic.

To protect the health and well-being of employees, clients, and communities, RBC is encouraging clients to limit in-branch interactions by performing day-to-day banking transactions through RBC's online platform, mobile app, or ATM network. Clients can also call RBC's Client Advice Centre locations across the region for assistance from an RBC representative.

Effective Wednesday, March 25, 2020, the following RBC Royal Bank branches in **Trinidad and Tobago, The Bahamas, and Grenada** will temporarily close:

- Trincity, Marabella, and Point Lisas (Trinidad and Tobago)
- Main Branch (incl. RBC FINCO) and Mackey Street (The Bahamas)
- True Blue (Grenada)

Effective Thursday, March 26, 2020, the following RBC Royal Bank branches in **Barbados** will temporarily close:

- Hastings (Lantern)
- RBC is also adjusting the hours and days of business in most other branches across the Caribbean to better promote social distancing while still remaining available for clients' immediate banking needs. Updated service hours are being posted directly in branches and will be reflected online through the Caribbean branch locator tool. Additionally, effective Saturday, March 28, RBC is temporarily suspending Saturday banking hours in all branches in all jurisdictions which offer that service.

RBC employees who work at the branches identified for temporary clo-

sure will continue to support our operations by being redeployed to nearby branches, supporting clients over the phone from other locations, fulfilling back-office functions, or working on other projects.

### Quotes

"Developments related to COVID-19 are happening at an incredibly rapid pace," said Rob Johnston, Head of Caribbean Banking, Royal Bank of Canada. "We are making these tough-but-necessary decisions to not only protect clients and employees, but to also do our part to help "flatten the curve" and reduce the spread of this coronavirus."

"The health and safety of everyone who enters our branches is our top priority," added Johnston. "At RBC, we are continuing to promote social distancing measures, we are vigorously cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing our locations daily, and we are encouraging employees who are able to work from home to do so for the time being."

"We are all in this together and we all must do our part," said Johnston. "If you're feeling unwell, please stay home. If you're unsure of what to do, listen to local health authorities, practice social distancing, and follow the rules and guidelines put out by governments across the region. RBC has a long history of standing by Caribbean clients through challenging times and this commitment will continue throughout this crisis and beyond."

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We are proud to support a broad range of community initiatives through donations, community investments and employee volunteer activities. See how at [rbc.com/community-sustainability](http://rbc.com/community-sustainability) [🌐](#)



## Cayman Airways

345-949-2311 | caymanairways.com  
Schedule effective Mar 23 - Apr 12, 2020

### MONDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4300	GCM	LYB	7:00AM	7:35AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4300	LYB	CYB	7:45AM	7:55AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	CYB	LYB	8:10AM	8:20AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	LYB	GCM	8:30AM	9:05AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4350	GCM	LYB	4:00PM	4:35PM	TWIN OTTER
KX4350	LYB	CYB	4:45PM	4:55PM	TWIN OTTER
KX4351	CYB	LYB	5:10PM	5:20PM	TWIN OTTER
KX4351	LYB	GCM	5:30PM	6:05PM	TWIN OTTER

### TUESDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4320	GCM	CYB	7:00AM	7:40AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4320	CYB	GCM	8:05AM	8:45AM	TWIN OTTER

### WEDNESDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4300	GCM	LYB	7:00AM	7:35AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4300	LYB	CYB	7:45AM	7:55AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	CYB	LYB	8:10AM	8:20AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	LYB	GCM	8:30AM	9:05AM	TWIN OTTER

### THURSDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4320	GCM	CYB	7:00AM	7:40AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4320	CYB	GCM	8:05AM	8:45AM	TWIN OTTER

### FRIDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4300	GCM	LYB	7:00AM	7:35AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4300	LYB	CYB	7:45AM	7:55AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	CYB	LYB	8:10AM	8:20AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4310	LYB	GCM	8:30AM	9:05AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4013	GCM	CYB	4:00PM	4:40PM	SAAB 340B+
KX4014	CYB	GCM	5:05PM	5:45PM	SAAB 340B+

### SATURDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4320	GCM	CYB	7:00AM	7:40AM	TWIN OTTER
KX4320	CYB	GCM	8:05AM	8:45AM	TWIN OTTER

### SUNDAY

Flight #	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Aircraft
KX4013	GCM	CYB	4:00PM	4:40PM	SAAB 340B+
KX4014	CYB	GCM	5:05PM	5:45PM	SAAB 340B+

Schedule subject to change

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## Self-isolation

Advice for persons with & without symptoms of infection, who are isolating themselves due to potential exposure to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). These actions will help to protect others inside & outside of your home from infection.

### Isolate yourself




-  **stay in your home or temporary residence**, do not go to work, school or other public areas
-  **separate yourself** from others in your home or temporary residence
-  **use separate facilities** if sharing, these should be cleaned before use by others
-  **have food, medication & other supplies** delivered to you
-  **do not have visitors** in your home or temporary residence
-  **there is no evidence** that pets can be infected with coronavirus however, it is good practice to wash your hands after contact

### Prevent the spread of infection

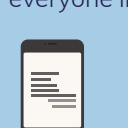


-  **frequently clean hands** with soap & water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
-  **cough or sneeze** in a tissue & bin it
-  **use separate household items** such as towels, bedding, cups & dishes
-  **wear a mask** when you are around others, **only** if you have been told to do so
-  **wash hands with soap & water** after using the restroom
-  **wash hands with soap & water** before cooking & eating

### Take care of your health & wellbeing

For those with symptoms of infection:



-  **get plenty of rest** until you feel better
-  **drink enough fluids** so that you pass urine regularly
-  **take paracetamol** as advised, to reduce pain & fever

For everyone in self-isolation:

-  **keep in contact** with friends & family by phone, video & online
-  **carry on hobbies & interests** within your home if you are able to
-  **take regular exercise** within your home if you are able to

Seek help if you develop symptoms or existing symptoms worsen (eg. difficulty breathing) by calling the flu hotline on **1-800-534-8600** or **947-3077**. For emergencies call **911**.

For the latest updates and information, please visit [HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus](http://HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus) or [gov.ky/coronavirus](http://gov.ky/coronavirus)

DATED: 19 MARCH 2020

# Brady eyes special Bucs jersey

Tom Brady joining Tampa Bay Buccaneers was a surprise move and universally welcomed by the team, even wide receiver Chris Godwin who is the current owner of the No.12 shirt, the number Brady had throughout his 20 glorious years at the New England Patriots.

Godwin, 24, who rushed 1,333 yards for nine touchdowns last season, is not revealing whether he's willing to give up the No.12 jersey he's worn since high school. But it looks like the 42-year-old superstar will probably get his wishes granted. "I think just out of respect for what he's done, what he's accomplished and the career he's built for himself, you kind of have to lean into that respect. But we'll see, we'll see how it goes," Godwin said.

Brady has worn 12 throughout his entire career with the Patriots. He previously wore the 10 at the University of Michigan.

Godwin added that he was "excited" that Brady is now with the Bucs. He added: "Being a guy that's watched him my whole career, like I said, getting the opportunity to play with him is a blessing and I'm going to try and take full advan-



► Tom Brady expects to fit in quickly at the Bucs



► Chris Godwin is excited about Brady's arrival

tage of it." As for next season, Godwin said he's optimistic with Brady leading the team. "I think the opportunities are endless."

The veteran quarterback's glorious partnership with coach Bill Belichick has come to an end - but what does that mean for Brady and the Patriots?

New England evidently needed some new offensive options and it felt like the right time to release Brady. Anyway, they were restricted by the salary cap and it would be hard to pay a quarterback of his vintage over \$30m a year.

He had complained about his offensive weapons and receivers, but the monetary situation was probably the final straw. Belichick was unwilling to suggest that Patriots owner Robert Kraft pay that much money when they have other things to address, especially on offence.

At least he's still playing and whatever happens in the twilight of his career, Brady is undisputedly the best quarterback of all time, just by what he's done already. If at Tampa Bay he does something crazy like wins a Super Bowl, he'll be hailed as the best football player of

all time, not just the best quarterback. If a Super Bowl title comes Brady's way again, he will equal Peyton Manning who won another Super Bowl with another team which he managed with the Denver Broncos in 2016.

It will be interesting to see if Brady makes any demands should he struggle to click with the Bucs. Or if he decides that he wants Antonio Brown in the fold. But for the time being, it seems that he is just focused on getting to know his teammates as he prepares for the biggest change of his professional career. 🌐

## Pressure grows for Games delay

It looks increasingly likely that the Tokyo Olympics will be postponed for at least a few months despite the Japanese government and sports officials remaining defiant.

USA Track and Field, athletics' US governing body, has called for this summer's Olympics in Tokyo to be delayed because of the ongoing coronavirus situation.

The federation has asked the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee to advocate to the International Olympic Committee for the postponement of the Games. It follows a request from USA Swimming for it to be delayed by 12 months and many other federations of various countries. The Olympics are scheduled to run from 24 July to 9 August.

There are a growing number of calls for the Games not to take place this summer.

UK Athletics chairman Nic Coward recently suggested that the Olympics should be postponed, while Brazil, Norway and Slovenia's Olympic committees have also urged the International Olympic Committee to take action and put it back to next year.



► Michael Johnson wants a Games postponement

Michael Johnson is a four-time Olympic champion and is now a TV pundit. He fears athletes could "risk their lives" trying to train for the Games and called for clarity on the IOC's decision-making process.

"IOC should communicate the window for deciding on the '20 Olympics,'" tweeted Johnson. "Athletes must keep training but for many there's nowhere to train."

"They may risk their lives and others trying to continue training. Answer isn't just cancel ASAP. But communicate the process to the athletes."

On Friday, IOC president Thomas Bach told the New York Times "different scenarios" for Tokyo 2020 are now being considered for the first time. 🌐

## Unhappy Coutinho wants Prem return

Philippe Coutinho's desperation to return to England has sparked interest from four top Premier League sides, although Liverpool, his former club, are not interested.

Chelsea, Manchester United, Arsenal and Spurs have all enquired about the Brazilian midfielder's availability at the end of this season.

The 27-year-old Barcelona misfit admits that he should never have left Liverpool and that his career has stalled since making the 'dream' \$150 million transfer to Barca in January 2018.

He endured a nightmare at the Nou Camp, his failure to make an impact seeing the Barca fans turn on him and often booing and jeering his underwhelming displays.

Last summer he joined Bayern Munich on loan but the German giants have indicated they aren't prepared to make it a permanent deal.

They handed over a \$8 million loan fee and agreed to pay Coutinho's \$250,000 a week wages but won't now commit to the asking price of \$100 million for his stay in Bavaria to be extended.

And neither will any of the Premier League clubs chasing the Brazilian



► Philippe Coutinho's spell at Barcelona was miserable

international. They all want him on loan.

Although Anfield boss Jurgen Klopp reluctantly allowed Coutinho, who had become a firm Kop favourite to leave, he isn't interested in bringing him back to Merseyside.

His stay at Liverpool was easily the happiest of his career and he and fellow Brazilian Roberto Firmino became big buddies.

But Klopp's priority is to keep hold of his current stars including Sadio Mane and Mo Salah who have been coveted by Barcelona and Real Madrid.

Coutinho was struggling to find form in Germany before the Bundesliga season was suspended, scoring only twice and creating only one assist in his previous 12 games in all competitions. 🌐

## Pollard: Let's use break to get fit

West Indies' limited-overs skipper Kieron Pollard believes the break brought upon them by the Covid-19 pandemic is a good time for introspection and for players to recharge their batteries.

The coronavirus outbreak, which has claimed over 12,000 lives and infected more than 250,000 globally, has led to the cancellation and postponement of all sports activities across the world.

Pollard said it is a good time to reflect on his own game and to work on his fitness and prepare for the season ahead. He missed the recent Pakistan Super League because of injury.

He said: "You have to take this time in order to do that and also keep your-

self in good physical shape, and mentally as well, because when the bell rings and they say 'ok, everything is back to normal and we need to go on tour', it might not be enough time to be prepared, but you as an individual have to be prepared mentally in order for you to try to perform at your best."

Cricket West Indies delayed the domestic season by a month in the wake of the deadly disease. The England and Wales Cricket Board suspended all professional cricket till May 28, delaying the start of the new season.

West Indies were scheduled to play a three-Test series from June 4, following warm-up matches against England Lions and Worcestershire in May but that looks unlikely to happen. 🌐



► Kieron Pollard wants to use break to get fitter

## Usyk: I'll take on all the heavies

Former undisputed cruiserweight champ Oleksandr Usyk proved that he does not fear anybody in boxing which is why he has stepped up to the heavyweights to challenge the division's elite.

During his reign as cruiserweight champion, the Ukrainian cleaned out the division, travelling to every other champion's homeland to dethrone them in front of their own fans. Thirteen of his 17 wins came through knockouts.

It included wins over WBO champion Krzysztof Glowacki in Poland, WBC champion Mairis Briedis in Latvia and WBA and IBF champion Murat Gassiev in Russia. Usyk also conquered Michael Hunter in America and Tony Bellew in the UK.

Now, the all-conquering 33-year-old is a heavyweight and scheduled to face his first real test against Derek Chisora in London on May 23. Chisora, 36, has a patchy record because of his lack of commitment in the past and claims he is re-focused now but is considered more of a journeyman now. Usyk has automatically been promoted to be the WBO's mandatory challenger at



► Oleksandr Usyk believes he will be heavyweight champ

heavyweight on the basis of his cruiser achievements.

This means that, providing he beats Chisora, he will be next in line to challenge unified WBA, IBF and WBO champion Anthony Joshua.

His other option would be to take on WBC champ Tyson Fury.

When asked which of the two elite heavyweights he wants to try and dethrone, Usyk gave an unequivocal response: "I want to fight both. The last thing I think about is who will fight who. No predictions." At 6ft 4in he is tall enough to take on the big boys but may not carry the same concussive power to dominate as he used to. Nevertheless, he is a welcome addition to a rejuvenated division. 🌐

# Homeporting Cruise Ships Will be Allowed in Barbados Waters But No Shore Leave Allowed for Crew

Prime Minister Mia Mottley has given strict instructions that no shore leave will be granted to persons on board cruise ships that are homeporting in Barbados.

She made the disclosure during a press briefing yesterday, when she revealed an additional three persons had tested positive for COVID-19, including a crew member in his 30s. This brings the total cases on the island to five.

Mottley explained that the cruise ship worker had never been to Barbados and his vessel had requested the test.

The crew member is now in isolation on the ship.

Barbados is the testing site for cruise ships that are homeporting in the Bridgetown Port. Under the International Health Regulations (IHR) 2007, Barbados is obligated to render medical care to anyone who becomes ill on board a cruise ship which homeports here. Crew members suspected of having COVID-19 on those vessels remain isolated onboard the ship and their samples are taken and tested at the Best-dos Santos Public Health Laboratory, once a formal request is made.

Mottley said Barbados had denied another ship's request to test approximately six cases last week.

"We refused them because we did not believe that we had the capacity because we had not yet stood up our Defence Force Field Hospital. We only had

the limited beds at Enmore at the time, and we believe that it was too many for us to take at once," she said.

The Prime Minister stressed that the island must continue to meet its obligations as a homeporting destination, pointing out that numerous crew members on ships docked in the Bridgetown Port were due to disembark and return home via air.

"We will continue to facilitate the persons who are disembarking the ships to go to the Grantley Adams International Airport only, in order to be able to take their flights. I've been advised by the port that the last flight for those persons will leave on Sunday (March 22), and with respect to the rest who remain as crew, there will be no shore leave. We have an obligation to these ships. These ships call Barbados home; there is a legal, contractual, moral, ethical and humanitarian obligation that we have," Mottley said.

In addition to facilitating crew members returning to their homelands, she outlined that many of the ships were also in Barbados for provisioning and fuel.

"They have to be able to feed their crew; they have to be able to provide fuel, and they have to be able to provide water...I know that this is difficult for some people to hear, but you can't have the benefits and not also the responsibility. And the reality is that we have had



the benefits of homeporting now for in excess of 15 years; and regrettably, this is now the obligation that we have to carry out, with respect to the provisioning. None of us would feel good if the ship runs out of fuel or water mid-ocean in circumstances where we had an obligation to them because of being a homeport," she underscored.

The Prime Minister also stated that from Sunday, people arriving from the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe would be quarantined for 14 days.

This is in addition to travellers who would have been to Iran, China, South

Korea and Italy, which were already on the quarantine list.

Barbadian residents will be placed in self-quarantine if they are deemed by health authorities to be at low-risk for COVID-19, while all others will be quarantined at a facility.

Prime Minister Mottley further disclosed there will be a significant reduction in commercial air flights to Barbados. American Airlines will cease flying to Barbados next week until early May; West Jet will end its service to the island on Saturday; and Air Canada is expected to finish operations within 10 days. 🌐

## Court to Rule on Vote Recount in Guyana

The Supreme Court will today hear arguments related to an injunction filed by a citizen blocking a total national recount of votes from the March 2 general and regional elections.

An interim injunction was granted as an independent high-level Caribbean Community (CARICOM) team was on the ground to oversee the recount.

It prevented the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) from executing the agreed upon aide-memoire between President David Granger, Opposition Leader Bharrat Jagdeo and CARICOM that requested the regional body supervise the recount.

The CARICOM team – chaired by the former Attorney General and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Dominica Francine Baron and including Minister of Finance of Grenada Anthony Boatman, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Government of UWI Cynthia Barrow-Giles, Barbados' Chief Electoral Officer Angela Taylor; and Chief Elections Officer of Trinidad and Tobago Fern Narcis-Scope – subsequently left the country.

President Granger says the court action "has curtailed further our thrust towards reaching a transparent conclusion to the 2020 General and Regional Elections".

But he said he would abide by the decisions of the court and GECOM.

"I iterate my commitment to the due completion of all electoral requirements and the conclusion of the process under the auspices of the Commission and in the interest of all Guyanese," Granger said.

The Guyanese leader had sought the intervention of CARICOM's Chairman Mia Mottley to bring an end to the questions by both local and international observers about the legitimacy of the election results. The tabulation process, in particular in Region 4 – the



country's largest electoral district – had been widely viewed as not being transparent or credible.

Mottley said CARICOM was forced to withdraw the team that arrived last Saturday, since the injunction granted by the court set aside "any agreement between the President of Guyana and the Leader of the Opposition and/or any agreement between the Guyana Elections Commission and the Caribbean Community".

"It is clear that there are forces that do not want to see the votes recounted for whatever reason. Any Government which is sworn in without a credible and fully transparent vote count process would lack legitimacy," she said.

"The preservation of law and order is paramount and all parties must work hard to ensure that there is peace on the roads and in the communities across Guyana." 🌐

## Jamaica Government Orders Quarantine of Community After Death of Man From COVID-19

The Government has issued a community quarantine order on the heels of the country's first death from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the refusal by the victim's family to quarantine themselves.

The imposition of the order for the Corn Piece settlement in the southern parish of Clarendon was announced by Prime Minister Andrew Holness in Parliament yesterday, a day after a 76-year-old man who travelled from New York died from COVID-19.

He said that since the elderly man's death, which came the same day he tested positive, members of his family who reside in Corn Piece have refused to comply with the requests of the public health team on the ground to remain at home.

"These persons would have been exposed to a symptomatic person and have a high risk for infection.... The persons so exposed may be incubating the virus," the Prime Minister said, explaining the justification for the quarantine.

"At this time, we are unsure of the number of persons in the community who have been so exposed and require that the community and the family com-

ply with the quarantine order to conduct the necessary contact tracing and investigations."

Holness, who expressed his sympathy for the family of the deceased man, was quick to add that the quarantine was not a "sentence".

"We are not sentencing anybody. We are not taking away your liberty. You are not going to be abused. This is for your own benefit. The Jamaican state cannot take any risks with this disease," he said.

The quarantine will be in effect for 14 days.

During that time, the Prime Minister said, the public health investigations will be completed, even as residents are monitored closely for any signs of COVID-19. He said early detection of symptoms will allow for early isolation and prevention of the transmission of the virus.

The community quarantine is the second one to be imposed since COVID-19 surfaced in Jamaica, following the first in Seven and Eight Miles, Bull Bay in St Andrew in the southeast of the island.

Jamaica has confirmed 16 COVID-19 cases. Of those, 11 are imported cases while the other five were people who



were in contact with the first case that was detected.

There are also 39 persons currently in isolation at hospitals across the island – 25 of them being Government quaran-

tine facilities. Another 99 people are in home quarantine.

Contact tracing is underway for all cases while 577 contacts are being followed. 🌐

**CROSSWORD**

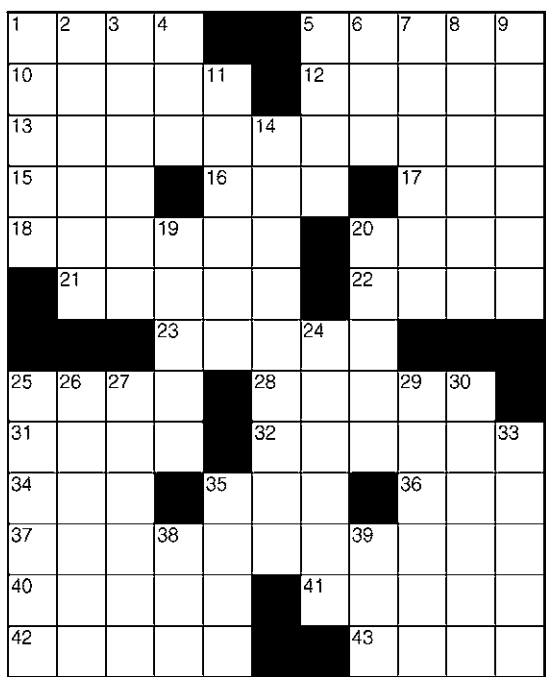
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 41 "Divine Comedy" writer
  - 1 Accord
  - 5 Traverse
  - 10 Friend of D'Arctagnan
  - 12 Joust need
  - 13 Prepares for contingencies
  - 15 Cool, to jazzmen
  - 16 Money machine
  - 17 "— pig's eye!"
  - 18 Become sharply attentive
  - 20 Fix text
  - 21 Like cliffs
  - 22 Wind indicator
  - 23 Vestige
  - 25 Pulsate
  - 28 Pay tribute to
  - 31 Jealousy's kin
  - 32 Main dish
  - 34 Nabokov novel
  - 35 Laugh sound
  - 36 Road-house
  - 37 Took the lead
  - 40 Cheering loudly

- DOWN**
- 1 Maze choices
  - 2 Acropolis setting
  - 3 Reduce gradually
  - 4 Great weight
  - 5 Chowder chunk
  - 6 Fan cry
  - 7 New York lake
  - 8 Digitize for computer use
  - 9 Sober
  - 11 Rink patron
  - 14 Road sign
  - 19 Trifling
  - 20 Bit of history
  - 24 "Lord Jim" author
  - 25 "Help me out here"
  - 26 Last computer
  - 27 Arthurian island
  - 29 Set straight
  - 30 Soprano
  - 33 Rear— (accident)
  - 35 Towel
  - 38 Young fellow
  - 39 Possesses



Yesterday's answer



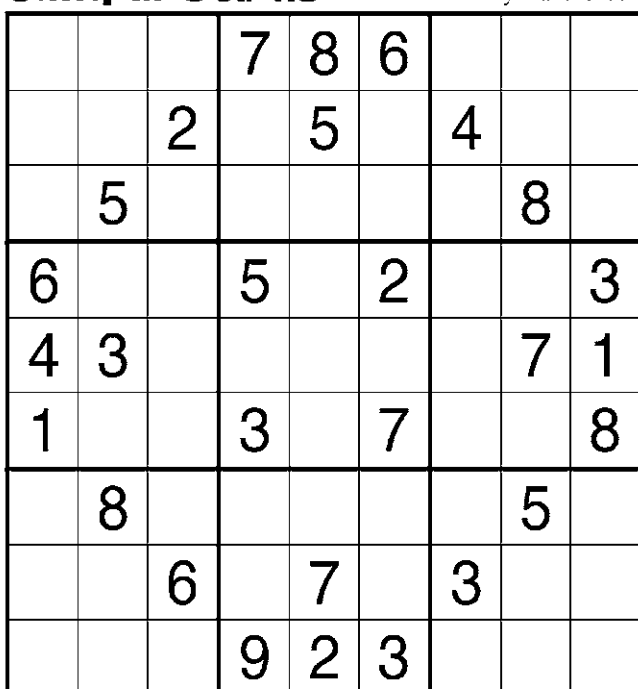
2-5

**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**

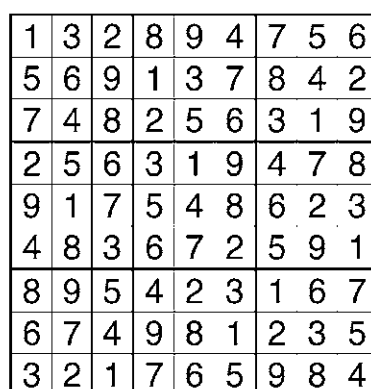
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

12/11

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★

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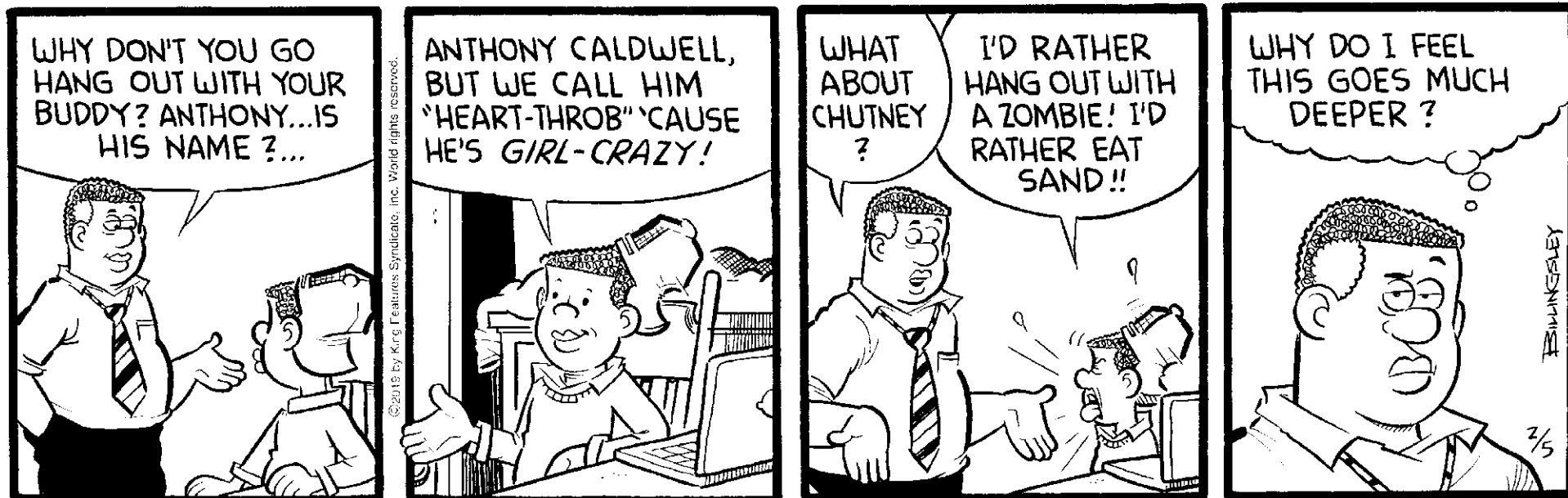
Word Search

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Boxing
- Diving
- Fencing
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Judo
- Karate
- Kendo
- Lacrosse
- Polo
- Rowing
- Shinty
- Skating
- Skiing
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Wrestling



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



# Coronavirus Information and Advice for Vulnerable People

## Prevention Tips

- frequently **cleanse hands** with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser
- **cough or sneeze** in a tissue and bin it
- **if a tissue is not available** cough/sneeze into your elbow not your hands
- **avoid close contact** with people suffering from fever or cough
- **avoid travel** if you have a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms
- **avoid wearing a surgical mask** unless advised by a medical professional

## Extra Steps You Can Take To Avoid Covid-19

If you have a **chronic illness** (e.g. respiratory disease, diabetes, heart disease, COPD, hypertension or cancer), are **elderly** (over 60) or have a **compromised immune system**, you can further protect yourself with the below extra precautionary steps in addition to the prevention tips above.



**1**

**limit guest visits** at home to a few family and friends or your district community officer during an outbreak



**2**

**avoid guests who show signs of flu-like symptoms**



**3**

**remain 3 – 6 feet away** unless being checked by your healthcare provider

Most importantly, remember **you are supported.**

Call the H.S.A. helpline on **1-800-534-8600** or **947-3077** if you have any questions.

For the latest updates and information, please visit [HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus](https://HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus) or [gov.ky/coronavirus](https://gov.ky/coronavirus)



DATED: 12 MARCH 2020

## Coronavirus – Self-Isolating

### Do

- Stay at home
- Try not to be in the same room as other people at the same time
- Only allow people who live with you to stay
- Stay in a well-ventilated room
- Ideally, keep two weeks of food, drink, medication and cleaning supplies at home
- Ask friends, family members or delivery services to carry out errands for you such as getting groceries, medicines or other shopping
- Make sure you tell delivery drivers to leave items outside for collection
- Clean toilets and bathrooms regularly
- Think about a bathroom rota if a separate bathroom is not available, with the isolated person using the facilities last, before thoroughly cleaning the bathroom themselves
- Use separate sheets and towels from anyone else in the household and launder at the hottest temperature possible for the material
- Wash crockery and utensils thoroughly with soap and water. Dishwashers may be used to clean crockery and cutlery
- Stay away from your pets — if unavoidable, wash your hands before and after contact

### Do Not

- Invite visitors to your home or allow visitors to enter
- Go to work, school or public areas
- Use public transport or taxis
- Do not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, bedding or other items with other people in your home

### Self-Isolation and Mental Health

Stay in touch with friends and relatives on the phone or by social media. You may find it helpful to talk to them. Most importantly, remember you are supported.

For the latest updates and information, please visit [HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus](https://HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus) or [gov.ky/coronavirus](https://gov.ky/coronavirus).



DATED: 13 MARCH 2020