







Cuba wants more Americans

Cuba's crippled economy expects a massive boost as its just got easier for Americans to fly there. On 1 June the US Department of Transportation lifted civil aviation restrictions on flights between the US and Cuba established during the Trump administration. Those restrictions had prevented US commercial and chartered flights from flying to Cuban cities other than Havana.

In practice, though, how easy it will be to travel to Cuba for a leisure trip is questionable. For Americans, the past decade has seen wide swings in US foreign policy that have impacted travel rules.

Despite expecting more American tourism revenue, it will take a long time to recover. Cuba's ailing economy has begun to recover in some sectors after two years of pandemic-induced contraction but soaring global prices for food and fuel require "audacious" measures to tame inflation, economy minister Alejandro Gil told Cuban lawmakers last month.

Gil said Cuba saw a 38 percent increase in exports in the first quarter, boosted by the rising price of nickel, a top mineral export. But the price Cuba paid for imported goods jumped by nearly \$700 million in the first quarter, outpacing the country's modest gains in exports, a predicament Gil attributed to "imported inflation" driven by fast-rising prices for such products as fuel, corn for feeding livestock and wheat. US sanctions and soaring food and

SEE CUBA WANTS MORE AMERICANS, Page 13





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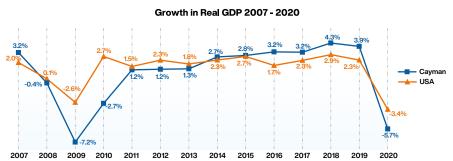


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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
13	14	15	16	17
Caribbean Princess		CarnivaL Vista	Carnival Sunrise	
Explorer of the Seas		Celebrity Equinox	Carnival Paradise	
Disney Dream		Liberty of the Seas		
Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers	Total Passengers
10,940	0	10,850	5,412	0





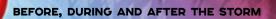
How did this change in 2021?

The annual System of National Accounts (SNA) survey collects the information necessary to measure the health and performance of Cayman's economy and its various industries.

The survey runs April 11th to June 17th, 2022.

Data collected for the SNA survey is **CONFIDENTIAL** under the Statistics Act (2016 *Revision*) and is **EXEMPT** from the Freedom of Information Act.

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CITA GETS MINISTERIAL BACKING TO 'UNMASK' CAYMAN

Reservations are mounting over Cayman's continued retention of its COV-ID-19 mask mandate and how it could now be negatively impacting tourism recovery.

The policy came in for further scrutiny and critique during the recent mid-year board meeting of the Cayman Islands Tourism Association (CITA), attended by Hon. Minister of Tourism Kenneth Bryan and his Cabinet colleague, Hon. Deputy Premier and Minister for Economic Affairs and Labour, Chris Saunders.

Both ministers voiced their misgivings about the continuing mask mandate and supported calls from the CITA executive for the policy to be reviewed.

Mr Bryan himself has recently been questioning keeping the policy and some other restrictions in place, considering the balance between safeguarding public health and ensuring economic recovery at a time when the pandemic seems to have peaked.

He has been putting the onus on individual responsibility, a point which he reiterated at the CITA board meeting.

"I'm tired of masks myself," he stated. "I've done my part. I've been vaccinated. Even if I wasn't it would be my risk. It's time for us to take all of our responsibilities so that we can all get back to business and provide for our families to take care of our businesses."

The Tourism Minister has been championing the argument both in public and Cabinet to remove the mask mandate and relax some of the other restrictions at this stage. He was at the time reacting to concerns raised during the CITA board meeting with tourism representatives wondering whether the remaining regulations were counter-productive for Cayman's tourism industry.



Kenneth Bryan

COMPETITION

CITA president Marc Langevin, in welcoming the support of Min. Bryan, observed: "You made it very clear to all your colleagues that it was a necessity if we really are serious about recovery, that we need to change and evolve our regulation."

He noted that Cayman is lagging behind in adjusting to the changing situation the COVID-19 pandemic which is on the decline in the key tourism markets for Cayman.

"The world is learning to move forward. It doesn't matter if it's Europe, New York or anywhere else, and here we are still being the last trying to make a move. And that is becoming a certainly a point of concern when other destinations are currently relaxing."

While acknowledging that some other destinations might have taken a risk and opened too quickly (resulting in renewed spikes in some instances), he felt that Cayman' was being overly cautious to its detriment.

"I'm not suggesting is the best and some of them take some very big risk, but cer-



Marc Langevin

tainly it's not putting us in a competitive comparison here," he noted.

"The reality is there is a regulation that is still holding us back...because we're competing against destinations that don't have those restrictions."

Assessing the current state of the tourism sector, the CITA president said it's too late to save this year's summer season and the focus should now be on the upcoming peak winter season by relaxing or removing the remaining COVID-19 restrictions.

"We certainly have the opportunity to simplify and expedite the travel authorization form or remove it that would be even better...We certainly need to start to remove some of the regulations."

CALL TO ACTION

Earlier in the meeting, Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan had urged the tourism industry to keep up their lobbying of government over those aspects of the remaining COVID-19 restrictions which they feel are now bad for business. "I fight very, very hard for in Cabinet for you, but you also know that this is a democracy, and I'm one of many. You need to convince the public, you need to convince all MPs to do this...I will continue to promote and stand on your behalf not only because I'm the Minister, but I think it's the right thing. We've done two years of those who don't want to take responsibility for their own actions, and I think it's time for us to make our own stand."

Appearing mindful of a possible pushback, Mr Bryan went on offer this advice to the CITA members on their suggestion to further relax the remaining restrictions:

"I know I'm gonna get a lot licks for this, but it's the truth," he said, urging them to press their case.

"Make your voice a little bit louder. I'm doing my best. But shout a little louder. I'm a politician. I'm accustomed to licks and so are my colleagues."

He received strong backing in his stance - especially against the prevailing mask mandate - from his colleague minister and Deputy Premier, Chris Saunders(Finance, Economic Development and Labour).

"I agree with the Minister. I hate those bloody masks too and it's about time that people started taking personal responsibility," Mr Saunders asserted.

The issue of opposition to the mask requirement was summed in one of the PowerPoint presentations by industry representatives.

"Mask mandate: Various policies in place for every business in Cayman. Most feel it's useless," it read.

And this comment was made alluding to a possible campaign against mask wearing: "That lovely mask mandate thing. We're gonna get a new campaign called 'Unmask Cayman'. I'm pretty sure we're gonna that started really soon."





Chamber hosts OfReg in 'Be Informed,' session – a time for lively discussion



Left to right, Sonji Myles, Peter Gough, Duke Monroe, and Gregg Anderson answer questions about OfReg

Chamber hosts OfReg in 'Be Informed,' session



OfReg's Gregg Anderson

By Christopher Tobutt

The Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce played host to the Utility Regulation and Competition Office (OfReg) during one of its 'Be Informed,' sessions, at the Chamber offices at Governor's Square.

OfReg is the independent multi-sector body responsible for regulatory oversight of, Energy, Fuel, Information and communication technology and Water. It was established by the Utility Regulation and Competition Act 2016, which effectively brought all the previous, separate utilities and information technology provider watchdogs under one umbrella, although structurally its different departments still reflect its varied functions. The three heads of the different departments, Gregg Anderson for Energy & Water, Duke Munroe for Fuels, and Sonji Myles for Information Technology each gave a presentation, outlining their section and its responsibilities along with Interim CEO, Peter Gough who gave a historical overview of how OfReg was formed.

OfReg's activities are divided into ensuring technical standards, for example pertaining to safety, are adhered to on the one hand, and trying to ensure that the market is open to some kind of competition on the other, in order to protect the consumer.

Mr Anderson identified described several challenges facing OfReg, including what he termed, Regulatory Capture, is where a regulatory body's judgement becomes too focused on the success of its licensees, "that is a key thing we need to avoid happening because it means we are making decisions that we are not mandated to do – in the best interests of the public," Mr. Anderson explained. "

OfReg issues licenses to businesses like power, water and internet which are key to Cayman's ability to not only survive a national disaster such as a hurricane, but recover after one too. "One of the things all our licensees have to do with us is file business continuity and management plans," one of the presenters explained.

When it was time to ask questions, the Chamber's Chief Executive Officer, Wil Pineau, got the ball rolling by asking how likely it will be that Cayman will reach the National Energy Policy goal of 70% of energy coming from renewable sources by 2037. Mr. Anderson replied that while he believed things were broadly on target, it was impossible to predict what would happen over such a long period of time, not least because of uncertainties in the ongoing supply of component elements. "One has to take into consideration extraneous factors ... anywhere from mining lithium items which is the major source of raw material for battery storage. But if we take it in smaller increments of two year periods, we could say that by 2025 we will have X amount in place, I think that's feasible," he said

In answer to another question concerned OfReg's powers to enforce its regulations, it was explained that OfReg



OfReg gave a lively presentation and question & answer session at the Chamber. Left to right, standing, Sonji Myles, Duke Monroe, and Gregg Anderson of OfReg. Seated, Wil Pineau Chamber CEO, Peter Gough OfReg's Interim CEO, and Nelson Dilbert, Chamber Vice President and owner of Cayman Spirits Co.

typically ensured enforcement by a progressive process, first informing that licensee that it was in breach, and then following up with a formal notice. There was a sliding scale of enforcement, right up to a 500,000-dollar fine and an additional penalty of 25,000 dollars for each day that they continued in breach.

There was also a question from a concerned property developer. "We build a lot



of houses in South Sound, and one of our problems is very low water pressure, so low that appliances don't work," he said, "There is apparently no minimum water pressure, so that there is not enough water for fire hydrants and water sprinklers....is there a plan to change that?" He was told that although the issue hadn't yet been addressed, OfReg would, "Make a note of that and see if we can pursue that for you."

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OFREG

Amendment Intended to Attract Investment and Benefit Clients

By giving institutional investors more investment options, the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2022 is intended to strengthen the Cayman Islands' position in international reinsurance and domestic insurance.

Minister of Financial Services and Commerce, the Hon. André Ebanks, will bring the amendment to the Cayman Islands Parliament during its third meeting of the 2021-2022 session, which will begin on Wednesday, 8 June.

He also will present the Public Recorder (Amendment) Bill, 2022; and table the Auditors Oversight Authority's Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2021, and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Minister Ebanks said the insurance amendment proposes to introduce capital redemption contracts.

These products are issued by insurance companies with fixed maturities and fixed interest rates; however, payout of the contract is not based upon the mortality of a particular person. Their key feature is that



Hon. Andre Ebanks

they diversify funding sources and reduce overall costs of funds for large insurance and reinsurance carriers.

Because capital redemption contracts would be underwritten by insurers, it would be regulated by the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority, Minister Ebanks said. Also, in the case of insolvency of the insurance company, contract holders would have the same protection as insurance holders.

Capital redemption contracts already are available in the UK, EU, US and Bermuda; in some jurisdictions, they are known as funding agreements. The Cayman Islands product stems from a Financial Services Legislative Committee (FSLC) proposal for Government to diversify the Islands' insurance and reinsurance sector.

The FSLC was established by Government. Its members are local financial services industry representatives, and representatives from the Ministry of Financial Services and Commerce. The FSLC proposes enhancements to the Cayman Islands financial services regime, for Government's consideration and potential action.

Public Recorder (Amendment) Bill, 2022

Minister Ebanks also will present the Public Recorder (Amendment) Bill, 2022. Part of a Government-wide initiative to

ease the financial burden on senior citi-

zens, the bill proposes to allow persons 65 years and older to pay \$50 to submit a deed poll to General Registry, rather than the \$100 fee currently prescribed by law. Deed polls, which are legal documents that formally request a change to a person's name, are handled by General Registry.

Auditors Oversight Authority (AoA) reports

Minister Ebanks will table the Auditors Oversight Authority's Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2021; and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The AoA, which is independent of the accounting and auditing profession, regulates and supervises auditors of market-traded companies. As with other similar bodies around the world, the AOA's mission is to contribute to public confidence in the integrity of financial reporting, through its oversight activities. It is a member of the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators.

Maples Group Supports DG5K 2022 with Additional Donation

The Maples Group was pleased to support this year's Deputy Governor's 5K Challenge ("DG5K") sponsoring a water stop station and 70 of its team members to participate. The Group also provided an additional donation of CI\$12,000 for a total of over CI\$17,000 toward the event. The additional donation has helped the DG5K to get closer to its fundraising goal and will be used to support the Cayman Islands Cancer Society, the MS Foundation of the Cayman Islands and the Alzheimer's and Dementia Association of the Cayman Islands.

Commenting on the Group's additional donation towards the DG5K, Deputy Governor Franz Manderson said, "I wish to offer sincere thanks to the Maples Group for their generous donation. The numbers of persons who registered for this year's DG5K was down from 2019. The donation from the Maples Group has made up some of the shortfall and will allow us to once again make a sizeable donation to our charities."

Global Head of Reward and Benefits, Morven Bodden, said, "The Maples Group was delighted to be able to assist the DG5K to raise the additional funds needed to support these valuable organisations and their services. Community spirit is a value ingrained across our organisation and we are pleased to offer our assistance in the local community where needed."

Since its inception, the Maples Group has been a participant and corporate sponsor of the DG5K and looks forward to continuing to support the worthy community initiative.

The Maples Group continues to support local causes and organisations in the Cayman Islands which focus on the development, improvement and benefit of five pillars in the community: Youth & Education, Healthcare, Sports, Arts & Culture and Community Outreach. To keep up to date with the Maples Group philanthropic efforts, follow the Maples in the Community Facebook page and our Instagram page @ MaplesGroup.



Crypto backed Visa card pioneer to speak at 5th annual Cayman Islands Digital Economy Conference

Corey Glaze, a recognized pioneer in the fintech space will be speaking on the future of financial services at the Cayman Islands Digital Economy Conference (CY-DEC) at The Westin, Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa, on 21 June 2022.

Glaze was a key player in bringing the cryptocurrency-backed Visa card to fruition. Recognizing the potential of cryptocurrencies early on, he identified a gap in the market while working at BitPay and was personally responsible for launching the first US and global crypto-backed Visa card program.

Since 2014, Glaze has been focused on product development in the bitcoin/ blockchain industry.



► Corey Glaze

"I'm really looking forward to visiting the Cayman Islands and discussing the future of financial services with fintech, alongside other professionals in both the private and public sector" said Glaze.

The 5th annual Cayman Islands Digital Economy Conference will be held on 21 June at The Westin, Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa. Registration for the full day, in-person event is available via www.cydec.ky

The popular digital technology conference features a number of local and international expert speakers discussing NFTs, Fintech and the future of financial services, Cryptocurrency, the Metaverse, the Cayman Islands Digital ID, and other

topics focused on this year's theme: Remodelling the Future.

The digital technology conference is aimed at business leaders across financial services, tourism, technology and the public sector - extending to those in compliance and enterprise risk management roles.

CYDEC 2022 is proudly partnered with the following sponsors: Ministry of Investment, Innovation and Social Development, Loop, Cayman Enterprise City, Tower, Cayman Management, Ogier and Parallel.

Registration is available www.cydec.ky at a cost of KYD \$400 per person. The full conference agenda and speaker information is published on the CYDEC website, www.cydec.ky/schedule/.

CAREER BANKER APPOINTED TO LEAD PROVEN's FIDELITY BANK CAYMAN

The Board of Directors of Fidelity Bank (Cayman) Limited (FBC/The Bank) is pleased to announce the appointment of Benjamin Freeman (Ben) as President & CEO effective Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

PROVEN Investments Limited (PROV-EN/PIL), through its newly formed subsidiary PROVEN Bank Holdings Limited announced the acquisition of FBC three months ago. This transaction is aligned with PROVEN's vision of being the premier Caribbean and Latin American private equity firm and perfectly fits into its core banking and wealth division business model.

The Bank's Board of Directors immediately conducted a review of FBC's current structure, which was followed by an extensive search to identify a leader capable of both complimenting and enhancing the skills of the bank's existing management. Mr. Freeman - with his proven performance in this regard and having met all the internal and regulatory requirements - will successfully assume this mantle.

"Our search considered the Group's desire for growth, along with leader-



ship that was familiar with both the local and regional landscape; we also required a decisive leader with the commercial acumen, passion for empowering people and commitment to investing in the technology required to deliver a best-in-class customer experience," Garfield Sinclair, Chairman of the bank's Board of Directors highlighted. "Ben has, above all, a demonstrated commitment to PROVEN's core values of integrity, teamwork, performance and respect. So, I wholeheartedly welcome him to the team on behalf of the Board of Directors."

With over thirty-four (34) years of professional experience, twenty (20) of which has been in the banking industry, Benjamin Freeman has served some of the world's largest banking groups notably UBS AG, Manufacturers Hanover/ Chemical Bank and First Caribbean International Bank (CIBC) in senior roles. He is highly regarded for his sound leadership approach, for being results oriented, for his broad functional expertise in all lines of business, and for his dedication to optimal customer experiences.

In addition to his experience in banking, Mr. Freeman spent thirteen years (13) in Cable and Wireless Communications recently leading The Bahamas Communication Company consumer division. This included sixty-seven (67) retail stores located on seventeen (17) family islands across the Bahamas. He was responsible for product management, retail and direct sales and the newly created customer center of excellence. During his tenure, Mr. Freeman led the disaster recovery efforts for his



Benjamin Freeman

division during and after the devastating impact of Hurricane Dorian on Grand Bahama and Abaco. Mr. Freeman's tested and proven skills in the areas of customer service, brand and retail management are not only advantageous, but also crucial to the bank's objectives of elevating customer service, brand enhancement and growth.

"I am very excited to have been selected as Fidelity Bank's President & CEO, and to join in building on the Bank's legacy as we work to accelerate growth and to deepen our support for customers and the community," said Freeman. "I am eagerly looking forward to working with the highly experienced and dedicated Cayman team to create a brighter future for customers, employees, and all stakeholders."

Ben currently lives in the Cayman Islands and has lived and worked in the Caribbean including Barbados and The Bahamas for fifteen (15) years.



Winner of CNCF National Playwriting Competition Announced

The Cayman National Cultural Foundation (CNCF) has announced Kirsty O'Sullivan as the winner of the 2022 National Playwriting Competition (NPC). O'Sullivan's play - Floating Doll - was one of three entries in the category of one-act plays written by individuals aged 18 and over. The other three categories - full length play written by persons aged 18 and over and skit and one act play written by persons aged 17 and under - each did not have the required number of submissions to be awarded prizes, per competition guidelines.

The NPC gives persons, young and old, the opportunity to share their writing talent to potentially win a monetary prize and have their play produced. In celebration of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee, a call was made for plays written around the theme 'Majesty', whatever the writer's interpretation of that word might be. The competition was open to all Caymanians and persons domiciled in the Cayman Islands, excluding playwriting workshop tutors, playwriting competition judges and staff of CNCF.

Floating Doll takes place after a hurricane hits the island, and two siblings - Fran and Jonny are brought together to sort their mother's home. In amongst the mess the hurricane has left behind, a doll has floated into the home, and they wonder whose it may be and if someone somewhere is crying for their favourite toy. During the play, the audience meets the neighbours and sees the different responses to the disaster, and the deep-rooted friendships that keep the community together. Secrets also come to light and there is also the mystery to solve of how neighbour, Miss Queenie, got her name.

"I am absolutely honoured to have been recognised in this way by CNCF. I have always worked in the arts in one way or the other but am only just finding my feet as a playwright and this was, in fact, my first competition so a big step for me," said O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan said the story had been swimming around in her head since she first moved to Cayman and experienced her first hurricane watch.

 $\ensuremath{^{\prime\prime}I}$ had never had to think about something like that before, and I

have been amazed by the kindness and community spirit that emerges each time the island is under threat," she explained. "Caymankind is something I have experienced over and over here, and I wanted that feeling to be at the centre of the play - people looking after one another. I also have been told many stories over the years of people's experiences relating to this and have been touched by the resilience of the people here. I hoped to capture a little slice of Cayman, whilst showing people's underlying struggles at the same time. Sometimes the strongest people carry the most pain."

"The National Playwriting Competition was an annual staple in CNCF's programme calendar until 2004 when Hurricane Ivan put the Harquail Theatre out of commission for three years. We are excited to reintroduce this initiative, which offers writers a platform through which to express their creative voice," said Natalie Urquhart, CNCF Chief Executive Officer. "We hope to grow the competition each year and to reintroduce workshops to support local writers with an aim to expand the 50-plus Caymanian



stage plays that now form part of Cayman's collection of original literature. Thank you to the six playwrights who submitted their work. We wish them well as they continue to hone their craft."

The other five entrants in the competition were:

• Carina James – *The Cursed Queen* (skit, under-17 category)

• Seth Stewart – *Sic Semper Tyrannis: A Caymanian Royalty Chronicle* (one act, under-17 category)

• Aleigha General – *Kingdom of Paupers* (full length, 18+ category)

• Mara Gaines – *The King Is Dead!* (Long Live the King) (one act, 18+ category)

7

• Brittany Kelly – *The Royal We* (one act, 18+ category)

O'Sullivan will receive a \$500 cash prize and a trophy for her efforts, as well as the opportunity to have her winning script produced by CNCF and read on stage.

For more information about CNCF programmes, initiatives and events, email info@artscayman. org, call 949.5477 or visit artscayman.org.

New Exhibition by Artist John Reno Jackson, A Heron Amongst The Storm, Opens at the National Gallery

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (NGCI) presents John Reno Jackson: A Heron Amongst The Storm — the artist's inaugural solo show at NGCI's Esterly Tibbetts Highway venue. On view in the Dart Auditorium Community Gallery, the exhibition features a series of paintings and accompanying drawings that collectively chart the artist's ongoing journey of creative experimentation and self-discovery. Highlighting NGCI's ongoing support of both early career and more established local artists, this project forms part of the Gallery's wider effort to provide young Caymanian artists with a professional platform in which to exhibit their work.

An emerging contemporary Caymanian painter, Jackson's work utilises the formal language of abstraction to explore familiar subjects and the wider landscape of the Caymanian cultural experience. Reflecting the artist's sustained investigation of his chosen medium, his paintings "explore a series of rhetorical questions - from the nature of representation to the tension between abstraction and figuration", says the exhibition's curator William Helfrecht. "While abstract work can sometimes feel complex or inaccessible", Helfrecht continues, "Jackson's work is filled with familiar references for those who take the time to look closely at his paintings. using bold colours and expressive brushwork to convey ideas and sentiments that are universally relatable yet distinctly Caymanian in character".

The featured artworks, which include twelve paintings on canvas and a selection of



Artist John Reno Jackson

intimate drawings in graphite and charcoal, are installed around a reading table with accompanying chairs and a selection of books for members of the public to enjoy and peruse. With titles exploring the history of art, visual culture and Caymanian society, this interactive library is composed of volumes that have directly inspired the artist and his work. Within the space, visitors are encouraged to sit and share ideas related to the works on display or simply expressive themselves creatively using the paper and pencils the artist has provided.

Unified by an overarching interest in representations of the body and its relationship to the self, Jackson's paintings and drawings consider questions of individual and communal identity, as well as the ways in which



▶ John Reno Jackson, 2004, 2022

people relate to one another in a society such as a Cayman. Stylistically inspired by a variety of artistic influences— from the twentieth century Expressionist movement to notable abstract painters like Willem de Kooning and pioneering Caymanian artist Bendel Hydes— Jackson's works largely veer away from idealising the figure, prioritising brushwork, composition and colour to creatively reinterpret his chosen subjects rather than simply recording them in exact detail. Speaking of his inaugural solo exhibition at the National Gallery Jackson remarks: "my works look beyond what is immediately visible in order to emphasise each painting's expressive capacity and reveal something authentic or

Rubis Cayman Donates \$7,500 To Charity And Crowns Christina Pineda As 'Art Your Part' Competition Winner At 10th Anniversary Celebration.



Former Director Of The National Trust Christina Pineda copped first place at Rubis Cayman's 10th Anniversary event.

Pineda walked away with the cash prize of \$3000 towards her charity (National Trust) after scoring 55 out of 65 marks. In second place was Carlos Garcia representing Feed Our Future, Kerwin Ebanks representing Alex Panton Foundation came in 3rd, and 4th place was Gordon Solomon representing the Cayman National Cultural Foundation.



Pineda's winning piece was a vibrant, multifaceted mural focusing on the exotic flora and fauna of Cayman and how citizens can symbiotically coexist with nature.

At the centre of the artwork is the quintessential wooden Cayman cottage surrounded by iguanas, flowers, mangroves and up close, an ode to the national anthem. The design is deliberately whimsical to inspire renewed wander into the country's rich natural and heritage features.

The voting system to determine the winner was multi-tiered. The first round of voting was public based and took place via the Rubis Cayman Islands Facebook page. This accounted for 20% of votes.

The final adjudication was completed by judges Director of Tourism Rosa Harris, Rubis Managing Director Andres Barthel and Multi-media Artist Avril Ward, who did a walkthrough and inspected the piece up close. All contestants were scored in the categories of Impact (15 marks), Story/Inspiration (25 marks) and Originality/Creativity/Innovation (25 marks).

Pineda stated "I am honoured to have represented the National Trust in this creative way for Rubis to give back and I am extremely pleased that my artwork resonated with the judges and the community." "The National Trust for the Cayman Islands was elated to be selected as one of the charities for "Art Your Part" by Rubis. We love this initiative that celebrates Caymanian artists and supports the work of local non-profits. Christina Pineda created an iconic mural that truly represents what the National Trust represents," added National Trust director Annick Jackman.

About Rubis

RUBIS is an established, French-based international private limited company founded in 1990. Rubis specializes in the downstream petroleum and chemicals sector. They operate bulk liquid storage facilities (for petroleum products and chemicals) through their subsidiary, Rubis Terminal and distribute fuels through their subsidiary, Rubis Energie.

Since 2000, Rubis has expanded its presence across three regions (Africa, Europe and the Caribbean) through direct investments and acquisitions. The Group has enjoyed strong, regular growth since 2000, driven by organic growth, new sites and acquisitions, while also constantly improving its productivity.

For more information about Rubis Cayman Islands, visit www.rubiscaymanislands.com, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or YouTube.

John Reno Jackson

CONTINUED FROM Page 7

hidden within it". "This series of paintings and the wider exhibition seeks to create a dialogue between the artworks themselves and the viewing audience", the artist continues, "extending an invitation to visitors to participate in the conversation around what it means to be an artist, and further what it means to be a Caymanian in our contemporary era."

John Reno Jackson: A Heron Amongst The Storm opens to the public on 04 June 2022 and is on view in the NGCI Dart Auditorium Community Gallery through 05 August 2022. Opening hours are Monday – Saturday, 10:00am–5:00pm and admission is free. For more information email: info@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945-8111. Further details about the exhibition and accompanying programme of events can be found on NGCI's website: https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/ whats-on/exhibitions/john-reno-jackson/.

For information about the artist visit: https://www.johnrenojackson.com/ , or follow us on social media: @natgalcayman, @johnreno

About the Artist:

John Reno Jackson is an emerging contemporary Caymanian painter. He attended foundation courses in painting and drawing at the London Art Academy in 2015. Since then, he has continued his painterly explorations through a series of abstract works made in Grand Cayman. Jackson has exhibited at Paulo - PADA Studios in Barreiro, Portugal, where he attended an artist's residency in 2020, and at Artisan Space in London, UK (2020). In 2022 he will be attending the Caribbean Linked VI Artist Residency in Aruba before enrolling at the Slade School of Fine Art, University College London, where he will be completing his BFA in Fine Art. His work can be found in private collections across Canada, the United Kingdom, Israel, the Netherlands, and Portugal, and is represented in the permanent collection of NGCI, where it has featured in the exhibitions Island of Women: Life at Home During our Maritime Years (2020), Reimagined Futures - 2nd Cayman Islands Biennial (2021) and The People's Collection - A 25-Year Cultural Legacy (2022).



▶ John Reno Jackson, a heron amongst the storm, 2022

COMMUNITY EVENTS

"I Am Worth the Wait" -**Teen Forum**

10 June - As part of their Teen Pregnancy Prevention Campaign, The Family Resource Centre would like to extend an invitation to young people, specifically between the ages of 12 and 16 years to the "I am Worth the Wait" Teen Forum on Friday, June 10th beginning at 6:00pm at the Parcel 110, Cardinal Avenue. Refreshments will be provided and prizes up for grabs!

The event will consist of experts in the field of sexual health, as well as those well versed in the laws as they relate to sexual relationships. Teens will be placed into separate breakout rooms where they will get a chance to meet with these professionals, receive relevant information

and process what this means for them as individuals. Call 949 – 0006 for more information.

Flowers One Mile Sea

Swim & Walk & Watch 11 June - The Annual Flowers One Mile Sea Swim & Walk & Watch will be held Saturday 11th June 2022 beginning at 2:30pm. The race starts from Coral Beach and finishes at the Ritz-Carlton. Whilst amateurs and top athletes will compete for top awards, everyone else has a chance to win over \$100,000 in cash and random prize. Prizes include tablets, hotel stays, restaurant vouchers, airline tickets and more. All finishers receive a fantastic t-shirt and goody bag full of great surprises. Visit flowersseaswim.com for more information.

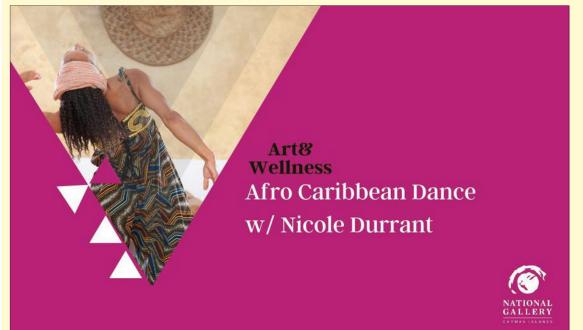
National Trust - Queen's Birthday Tea party 11 June - The National Trust is hosting a Queen's Birthday Tea party at Heritage House on Saturday from 4 to 7pm. For more information, call 749 - 1121 or email info@nationaltrust.org.ky.

Free Yoga Class with **Janine Martins**

11 June - The National Gallery presents Yoga with Janine Martins on June 11 at 9am. Registration is required. Contact education@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 - 8111 to reserve your spot.

40th Annual Kiwani **20 Mile Bike Ride**

12 June - Join the Kiwanis for the 20 Mile Bike Ride from the Blow Holes in East End to Smith Cove, South Sound. This is a fun event for any cyclist. Funds raised go towards the Kiwanis Club of Grand Cayman's Circle K and Key Clubs - creating young



leaders in local schools. For more information, go to www. Kiwanis.ky.

Cayman Arts Festival - Meet the Strings – Children's Concert

12 June - "Meet the Strings" is the first concert in a series of four concerts for children, where you and your child will be able to learn about string instruments and listen to music being played on them. This is an event for children of all ages where they will discover the joys of live classical music brought to them by students enrolled in the CAF After School programme, their tutors and other string performers. All funds received will be used to send some of our musically inclined students to the Luzerne Music Centre Camp in New York state this summer. Tickets are USD \$15 for adults and USD\$ 5 for students. For more information and to purchase or reserve tickets, please email enquiries@ cavmanartsfestival.com or call 922-5550.

Free Afro – Caribbean **Dance at the National** Gallerv

14 June - The National Gallery presents Afro-Caribbean Dance with Nicole Durrant on Jun 14 at 6pm. Join dance teacher Nicole for a free, high energy rhythmic class inspired by our Caribbean neighbours and the diaspora. All levels are welcomed. Registration is required. Contact education@ nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 - 8111 to reserve your spot.

Sea Turtle Festival at **Cayman Turtle Centre** 16 - 19 June - All are invited to participate in this celebration hosted by Cayman Turtle Conservation and Education Centre from Thursday 16 June to Sunday 19 June from 8am to 5pm daily. Families will enjoy turtle themed activities, games, food and drink specials, and live music poolside. Call 949 – 3894 for more information.

9

Lighthouse School -**Talent Show/Concert & Fun Day**

16 June - Lighthouse School will be hosting a special family friendly Talent Show/Concert & Fun Day, in celebration of the 'Ausomeness' of Autism. The event will take place on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at the Crescent at Camana Bay, beginning 4:00pm

Her Majesty's Platinum **Jubilee Celebrations** at the Cayman Islands

National Museum 18 June - Enjoy Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at the Cayman Islands National Museum from 10:00am to 2pm. There will be local food, entertainment by UCCI Pandemix Steelpan, Cayman Islands Folk Singers and the UCCI Dancers. Visit to the museum is free.

Safehaven Beach Clean Up

18 June - Join Plastic Free Cayman at Safehaven for another beach clean-up. There will be special prizes for the most bags of trash and most micro plastic collected! Please bring gloves, a reusable water bottle and a hat. You may also want sturdy shoes! And of course... bring a friend the more the merrier.

Send your community events to wendy@caymaniantimes.ky

Habits make us. Here's how to upgrade yours...

Your habits say a lot about who you are.

Confucius said, "Men's natures are alike; it is their habits that separate them."

John Dryden added, "We first make our habits, and then our habits make us."

And Aristotle noticed that, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit."

It's pretty clear that the habits you adopt will shape who you are

What are your habits?

Do you eat the same thing for lunch, go through the same exercise routine, and fall into bed at the same time each night?

Or maybe you've made a habit out of eating something sweet before bed, avoiding the gym, and staying up as late as possible.

When it comes to your fitness, the two habits that define you are your eating and exercise habits. In fact, everyone that you know who is in great shape has dialed in these two important habits.

If you aren't happy with your body, then simply adjust your eating and exercise habits. Here's how to adopt a habit:

1. Choose ONE habit that you would like to develop. It's tempting to pick up 3 or 4 healthy habhabit is realistic and doable.

Here are some healthy habit ideas:

• Do not eat after 7pm each night.

· Bring your lunch to work instead of eating fast food.

• Exercise 4 times a week after work for 45 minutes each time.

• Only eat fruits and veggies as vour afternoon snack.

· Get up early and exercise for an hour each morning.

• Workout with me 3 times a week.

2. Write your new habit down on paper. Also include your 3 main motivators for developing this new habit, the obstacles you'll face, and your strategies for overcoming these obstacles.

Here's an example:

• My new habit is to work with its but choosing just one new a personal trainer 3 times each week.

> • My 3 main motivators are 1) to feel confident in my bathing suit this summer, 2) to have more energy, and 3) to fit into my skinny jeans.

> • The obstacles I will face are 1) not having the energy to go to my session after work, 2) not having enough money to pay for sessions, and 3) not having my spouse's support.

• I will overcome these obsta-

cles by 1) doing my workouts before work instead of after work, so I have more energy, 2) cutting down on frivolous spending to ensure that I can afford it, and 3) asking my spouse to join me so we can get in shape together.

3. Commit fully to your new habit, in a public way. This could mean posting it on social media, or simply announcing it at the dinner table. Put yourself in a position where you'll be embarrassed to give up on your new habit.

4. Keep track of your progress. You could keep a detailed journal or simply make a check mark on each calendar day that you successfully exercise your new habit.

Once your new habit becomes second nature, usually in about 30 days, feel free to add a second hab-



it by going through the same steps.

I'd love for my fitness program to become your new healthy habit! Call Ernest Ebanks at Body Shapers Personal Training Fitness Studio 325-8696 or email bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com now to reserve your spot.

OUEENS JUBILEE



The RCIPS looked smart as they headed the March Past for HM the Queen's birthday



The Cayman Islands Cadet Corps

"Three Cheers for the Queen!" - Jubilee and **Birthday Celebrations at Government House**



▶ Police Commissioner Derek Byrne and Superintendent Pete Lansdown, pictured with their Wives and friends at the Governor's garden party

By Christopher Tobutt

On Monday 6 June there was a huge official celebration all around Government House to mark Her Majesty the Queen's 96th Birthday Celebrations, as well as celebrate her Platinum Jubilee, or 70 years on the throne. She became the longest reigning Monarch in British History on September 9, 2015, surpassing the reign of her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, and during her reign she has made 150 visits to the commonwealth alone,



Three beautiful belles

including several to the Cayman Islands, first in 1983 and again in 1994.

Brass buttons gleamed on Bright red and Royal Blue uniforms as contingents from all of the uniformed services got ready for the official march-past, and then

the official inspection by His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper, OBE. There was also the symbolic arrival of Her Majesty the Queen, and a Royal Salute, received by the Governor.

SEE A JUBILEE CELEBRATION, Page 11



All the uniformed contingents looked extremely smart





▶ His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper, presents an MBE to Sharon Smith

A Jubilee Celebration CONTINUED FROM Page 10

The RCIPS played the first verse of the National Anthem, and then there was a special 21-gun salute for the Queen's Birthday, followed by 'Three Cheers for the Queen,' during which all the uniformed contingents took off their Caps to honor the Queen.

Then it was time for Cayman's very own Queen of Song, Mrs. Karen Edie-Turner, to sing the National Song, Beloved Isle Cayman, before Pastor Felix Manzanares of Journey Church said a prayer for Her Majesty, thanking God for hear steadfastness and faithfulness in her duties as Monarch, and he prayed that God would continue to bless her with happiness and good health. He also prayed for wisdom and guidance for all of her ministers of government here in the Cayman Islands.

Governor Martyn Roper presented Honours & Awards which were announced by Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz Manderson MBE. Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) was presented to Lucille Dell Seymour, BEM, JP for services to Sport, Education and the People of the Cayman Islands, and also to Sharon Karen Smith for services to the former Legislative Assembly. To be an Honorary Member (MBE) was presented to Angela Marie Tanzillo - Swarts for services to the Covid response in the Cavman Islands, and in particular, "Outstanding contribution to our capacity and ability to carry out wide-scale testing."

Next, The British Empire Medal (BEM) was presented to Natalie Claire Cole-

WORLD FAMOUS

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man-Urquart for services to Arts and Culture in the Cayman Islands and wider region and also to be an Honorary Member (BEM) was presented to Frank Christopher Volinsky for services to the Cayman Islands through the Bridge Foundation. Awardees of the Cayman Islands Certificate & Badge of Honor went to Kim Ann Bullings, Lula Suzette Ebanks, and Bianca Katrina Moore for services rendered during the Covid pandemic. On Cayman Brac, awardees of the Cayman Islands Certificate and Badge of Honor included Raistone Dilbert, Kedine Hyde, and Suzette Young-Watson for services rendered during the Covid pandemic, as well as Bentley Tibbetts Jr. for services rendered to the Cayman Islands Government. It was also announced that Chief Justice Anthony Smellie QC is to receive a Knighthood for services to Law and Justice, and Cindy Scotland is to receive an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for her services to the Financial Services Industry.

After the final march-past, the formal ceremony ended and it was time to file into the Governor's lovely garden for his Garden-party in honor of the Queen. There, people from different walks of life were able to greet each other and enjoy some splendid fellowship and friendship over a glass of wine or a fruit punch, and some very nice food. The Governor made a speech, wishing Her Majesty The Queen well. "Her Platinum Jubilee, and she has served the United Kingdom, the overseas territories, and the Commonwealth selflessly, and with quiet dignity for 70 years, and I am personally in awe of her unstinting hard work and service to us all," he said. I think you'll all join me in saying, "Thank you Ma'am, and a very happy jubilee."

OPEN TUES-SAT @10AM-5PM

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Caymans own queens watch the parade

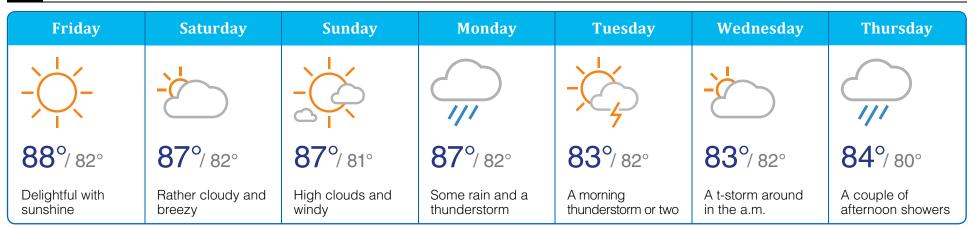


Lucille Seymour received an MBE from Mr. Roper

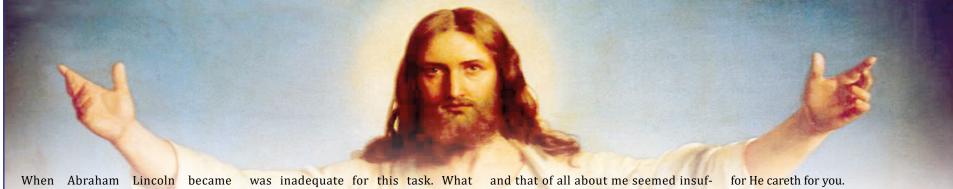


Natalie Urquhart, who received an award, pictured with her sister, Danielle Cole, and a friend

12 Issue No 772 | Friday, June 10, 2022 | Caymanian Times WEATHER / DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS



MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION



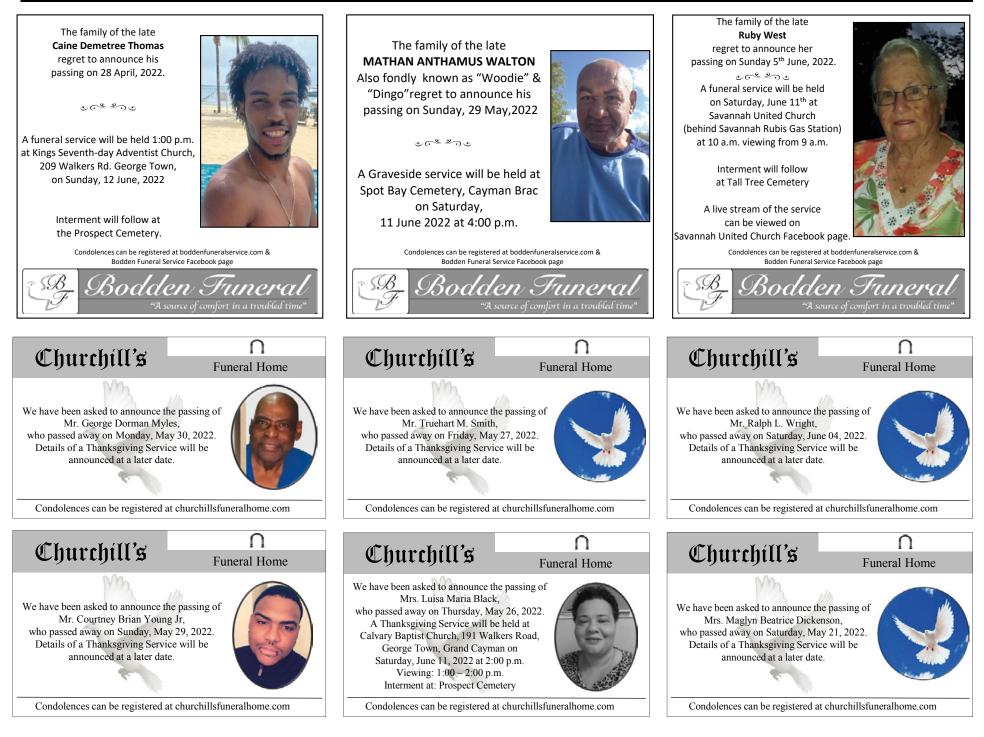
president, he was tasked with leading a fractured nation. He was viewed as a wise leader and man of high, moral character. He understood that he

was his response? " I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom ficient for that day."

Life's challenges are massive. We cannot and do not have the answers to them. 1Peter 5:7 says," Cast all your cares upon

God's love for His children, paired with His absolute power, make Him the perfect Person to approach with our frailties. That is the essence of prayer.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Cuba wants more Americans

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

fuel prices, in part due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, have put Cuba's tepid recovery at risk and threaten to worsen shortages already forcing citizens to line up for food, medicine and other basic goods.

The undulating fortunes of the economy started when President Barack Obama began relaxing rules for to travel in Cuba in 2011. Cuba quickly became a hot stopover on sailings that offered onshore excursions that ostensibly fell into the "people-to-people" category. While the largest cruise lines docked in Havana, a number of smaller, upscale cruise operators created more Cuba-centric itineraries making calls on smaller cities. By 2018, more than a dozen cruise lines were bringing roughly 800,000 passengers to Cuba annually.

In 2019, the Trump administration drastically rolled back leisure travel to Cuba by banning commercial and chartered flights from the US to Cuban cities other than Havana. US cruise ships were prohibited from stopping in Cuba and the "people-to-people" travel category was eliminated.

Blocking "people-to-people" trips meant that, while Americans could legally fly into Ha-



Cuba makes Americans feel welcome

vana, they had to find another category — family visits, professional trips, religious or humanitarian work or, what became the most popular option, a category called "support for the Cuban people." For the latter, travellers need to demonstrate that their plans include activities like meeting with local business owners, visiting museums or galleries, and eating at locally owned restaurants and markets.

Now the Biden administration is trying to swing the pendulum back. Two weeks ago, officials announced initial steps to reopen limited leisure travel to Cuba.



▶ The queues for basic products is alarmingly long

Jamaica expects highest summer | St Lucia's murder rate is scary



Jamaica is preparing for bumper tourist levels

Jamaica is predicting that this year's summer arrivals of visitors will be a bumper season as tourism officials say it is on track for record arrivals surpassing 2019 levels when the country welcomed over 250,500 visitors.

"Summer 2022 will be the strongest summer that Jamaica's tourism has ever seen", said Tourism Minister, Edmund Bartlett. "All the bookings and the indications are that we are going to exceed 2019 levels in this summer. We are conscious of the importance of this as the economy, not just of Jamaica but the world faces challenges and tourism has that special capacity to drive economic activities in so many key areas."

Bartlett said a strong summer means that "agriculture will be stronger, it means that

manufacturing will be stronger, it means transportation will be stronger, it means small and medium enterprises that feed so much into the experience of tourism will be economically stronger.

Bartlett, speaking at a function to welcome American Airlines' inaugural direct flight from Austin Texas, at the Sangster International Airport (in Montego Bay over the weekend, said the flight signalled a "strengthening of the south eastern seaboard of the United States as a key source for the tourism in our country.

"We are very strong in the northeast, we call that the bread basket, but the southeast is now strong because it does have the capacity to drive the numbers to us."



St Lucia had become a dangerous place

St Lucia is quickly gaining a reputation as a dangerous place to live as the murder rate soars to alarming levels.

St Lucia recorded 25 killings during the first five months of this year after a record number in 2021. Assistant Police Commissioner George Nicholas admitted "we have too many homicides being recorded for our little population,"

In the final days of May, two young men were killed on successive days in Vieux Fort, according to former prime minister and current Member of Parliament for Vieux-Fort South, Kenny D. Anthony, who called for an urgent meeting with police.

Residents of Vieux Fort, a town at the island's southern tip, collected 20,000 St

Lucia dollars (\$7,400) as a reward for information on the shooting death of 21-yearold Jesus Blanchard. A video of Blanchard's killing showed him sitting by the side of the road with another man on the night of May 28, when a gunman walked up to them and shot Blanchard several times. Other slayings in May frightened citizens in Laborie and Soufriére.

The record 74 murders recorded last year means St Lucia had a homicide rate of 40 per 100,000 people. This places it with Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica in the top five countries with the highest homicide rates in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2021. The others are Venezuela and Honduras.

CROSSWORD 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 Inc Answer to previous puzzle Syndicate. 5 4 1 3 2 4 9 Features 8 6 9 King à 6 8 4 Dist. Puzzles 3 8 6 2 7 1 3 5 ©2018 Conceptis Difficulty Level * * * * * 1/15 Difficulty Level ★ Word Search Dengel Minster

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

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