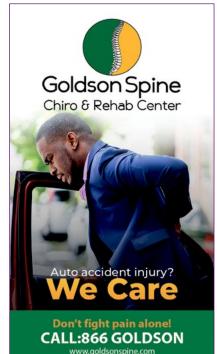
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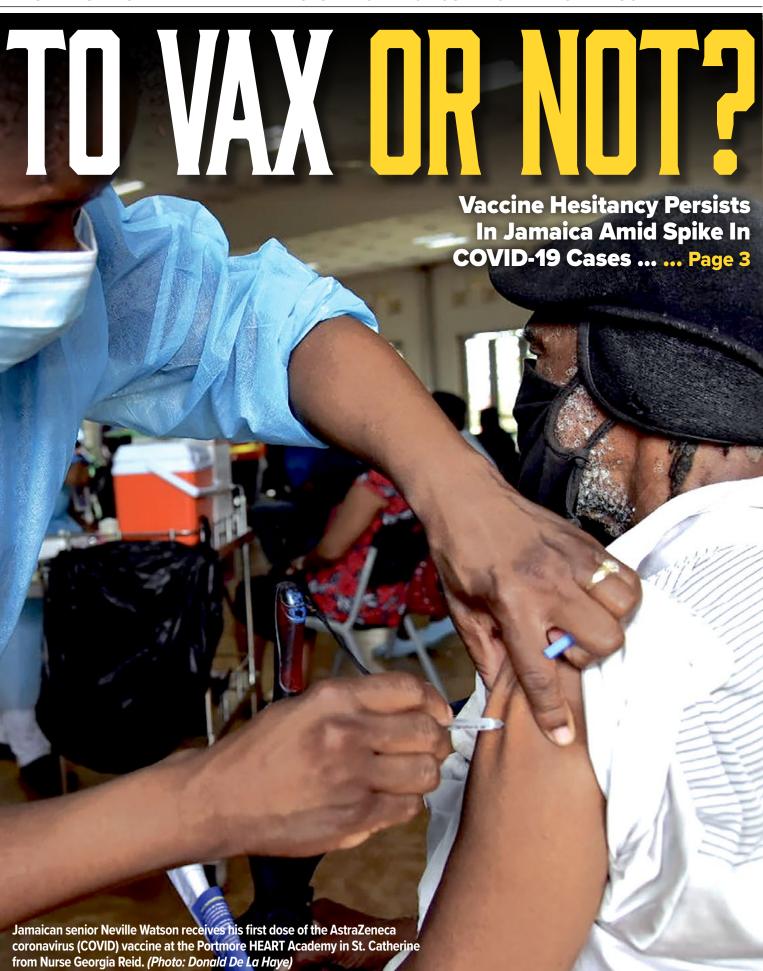
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Regional Caribbean News Round Up

Here's a synopsis of all the major Caribbean news from the region you can use:

REGIONAL

US donations of the now FDA-approved Pfizer vaccines to the Caribbean has now been received by 12 CARICOM nations. Guyana, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada St. Kitts-Nevis, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, Suriname and the Bahamas have all received vaccine donations from the US.

The US has sent 837,000 vaccine doses to Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, St. Kitts-Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The twin island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago received 305,370 doses of the Pfizer vaccine while The Bahamas received 397,000 doses and Barbados, 70,200.

Antigua and Barbuda got 17,550; St Kitts and Nevis, 11,700; and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 35,100. Jamaica received 208,260 doses; Guyana received 146,250 doses; Saint Lucia, 52,650 and Grenada, 29,250. Dominica received 11,700, and Suriname, 140,400 doses.

In addition to the two billion US dollar donated to COVAX, the U.S. government has purchased



500 million Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines to distribute them through the year to the African Union and 92 low and lower middle-income countries as defined by the Gavi's COVAX Advanced Market Commitment.

JAMAICA

A sister and cousin of a senior government minister, a senior judge, and a 34-year-old pregnant American visitor have all died from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Jamaica, as the country's COVID-19 rates continue to spike.

The ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) in a statement, said that Jamaica's Transport and Mining Minister, Robert Montague's sister, Carlene Angela Rodney, died on Sunday, August 22nd, while his cousin Dorrette Palmer Lobban, died 24 hours later on August 23rd.

Senior Parish Judge Stanley Clarke, who tested positive for

the virus and was admitted to the Cornwall Regional Hospital in critical condition, also died on August 23, 2021.

Clarke was on June 3rd this year transferred to St Ann as the senior parish judge. He was in his late 50s and had been a judge for more than 17 years.

Chief Justice, Bryan Skyes, said that "there is unimaginable grief, shock and pain," describing Justice Clarke as a dedicated public servant.

The American woman, whose name has not been released, died at the Cornwall Regional Hospital on August 23rd as well, after she tested positive for the virus.

The Western Regional Health Authority said she had been staying at a hotel in the tourism resilient corridor and developed COVID symptoms. She was reportedly isolated at the hotel and taken to the Noel Holmes on August 16th.

Media reports said that she

had initially refused to go to a hospital for medical treatment and that her family had been considering flying her back to the United States.

COVID-19 deaths in Jamaica are now over 1,400, as new infections push on to 64,000.

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Lawyers representing St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, are seeking half a million dollars (One EC dollar=US\$0.37 cents) in damages from the former speaker of the Parliament, Jomo Thomas, after claiming that he had libeled their client in his weekly newspaper column.

The lawyers wrote to Thomas, who is also an attorney, claiming that in his "Plain Talk" column on August 13, 2021, that appeared in the Vincentian newspaper, he "falsely and maliciously published" and article that contained "defamatory words."

The column dealt with the protest outside the Parliament on August 5th, when Prime Minister Gonsalves was hit on the head with a brick and had to be flown to Barbados for further medical treatment.

The lawyers claimed that by using the defamatory words, the author was suggesting that their client had committed "misbehavior in public office, an offence punishable by imprisonment and / or civil sanction and damages."

The lawyers said they were seeking EC\$200,000 in damages and EC\$50,000 in legal fees from Thomas and the publishers within a four week period, adding that failure to do so would result in legal proceedings being instituted.

In addition, the lawyers are also seeking EC\$200,000 from Thomas after his column appeared in an online publication on August13th. They said that online publication later removed the article after their client had telephoned the publisher and brought "to his attention the defamatory publication.

GUYANA

Guyana and Suriname's oil discoveries span around 100 million years of deposition.

That's according to
ExxonMobil's Senior Vice
President, Exploration and New
Ventures, Mike Cousins. He said
the basin has been depositing
reservoirs and filling with
hydrocarbons for tens of millions
of years.

"It is absolutely fascinating... If you combine Guyana and Suriname, of course the number around 12 billion oil equivalent barrels and a lot more, still to come," he said.

Exxon has made around 22 discoveries offshore Guyana since 2015 at the prolific Stabroek block where it is the operator. The U.S. oil major is also the operator of the Canje and Kaieteur blocks. Over

in Suriname, Exxon and Petronas (operator) hold the Block 52 acreage where the first discovery was announced in December 2020.

SURINAME

Suriname and Guyana have decided on a model for design and financing of a bridge across the Corentyne River, that will connect the two South American CARICOM nations.

The announcement of a model for the project followed three days of engagements between highlevel teams from both Guyana and Suriname, led by the respective Presidents, Dr. Irfaan Ali and Chandrikapersad Santokhi.

According to reports, the shortlisted companies being considered to build the bridge are China Road and Bridge Corporation (China); EGIS (France); Exp Services Inc.; Pedelta, Arcadis; CEMCO (Canada, Spain, Netherlands, Guyana); FIGG/Sunecon, SRKN'gineering & Associates/ E&A Consultans / P-ALL Consultants/ Environmental Management Consultant (United States of America); Politecnica and Rina JV / ILACO / SRKN'gineering & Associates (Italy, Suriname, Guyana); SYSTRA International Bridge Technologies Inc. / AP&G Consultancy Suriname NV / Delta Marine Consultants / Deltares (Dubai, Suriname, Netherlands): TYPSA/ Leonard, Andra und Partner GmbH/ FIRM (Spain, Germany, Suriname); and WSP Caribbean Ltd. (Trinidad).

HAITI

The Dean of the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince, Bernard Saint-Vil, has appointed Justice Gary Orélie as the new investigating magistrate to probe the assassination of President Jovenel Moise, two weeks after Mathieu Chanlatte stepped down.

Chanlatte had stepped down claiming "personal reasons" that observers said included fears for his personal safety.

Moise was shot and killed at his private residence overlooking the capital on July 7, when armed gunmen stormed the residence. His wife, Martine, was seriously injured and had to be flown to the United States for medical treatment. Police have arrested more than 40 suspects, including 18 former Colombian soldiers and 20 Haitian police officer, but there is no clarity about who was behind the plot to kill Moïse, who had been ruling Haiti by decree over the past year.

Haiti has called on the United Nations to conduct an international investigation into the murder along with a special court to prosecute the suspects.

~ Rewritten from CMC, OilNews. com, NewsAmericasNow.com and LoopNews Jamaica









Jamaican Government Fighting Spike In COVID-19 Cases, Deaths And Vaccine Hesitancy

BY HOWARD CAMPBELL

Most days, Ronald Williams can be found in Cross Roads, a bustling commercial hub in central Kingston, Jamaica's capital. A self-described hustler, the 72-year-old Rastafarian heads out daily to make a living, weary of the dangers of COVID-19.

As of late August, Williams was not vaccinated. He insists he is not an 'anti-vaxxer,' but like many Jamaicans, remains un-convinced the various vaccines are effective against the rampant pandemic.

"As a Rastaman, my experience with vaccinations over the years is that they reconcile certain ailments. None of these vaccines stop you from contracting the virus and that creates a certain hesitancy for me," he said.

Williams is not alone. On Instagram, influential reggae artists like Buju Banton and Spragga Benz have become an almost daily chorus of voices speaking out against the COVID vaccines as Reverend Al Miller called on the government to stop "experimenting" with children by giving them the COVID-19 vaccine from Pfizer.

That hesitancy is a major concern for the Jamaican government which has launched a comprehensive campaign to get citizens vaccinated amid a frightening surge in COVID-19 cases.

The rise in new cases has landed the Caribbean country in the number three spot for most cases across the region as it also reported that the delta variant has reached the island.

The new spike has forced Prime Minister Andrew Holness' administration to impose a seven-day lockdown of the country over three weeks. The move came as the Holness government faced strong criticism from the parliamentary opposition and some private sector groups over their handling of the virus.

After getting initial high marks for its stewardship during the early phase of the pandemic, some critics now claim Holness has caved to special interests by re-opening the tourist sector - Jamaica's biggest earner of foreign exchange - without a proper vetting process.

That criticism heightened in early August as Jamaica celebrated Emancipation and Independence and the government gave the green light for popular events such as Dream Weekend in the resort town of Negril. It attracted hundreds of revelers over

five days.

Doctors have now blamed the recent subsequent spike in COVID-19 cases in western Jamaica on the event even as PM Holness has denied being pressured by influential tourism stakeholders to stage the event.

So far Jamaica has over 66,000 cases of the virus and over 1,500 deaths. There are also over 17,000 active cases as the government reported an oxygen shortage and hospitals and medical staff locally began to feel the pressure and

burden of the hesitancy and fear. Several were in a sick-out recently as hospitals announced they will only be seeing emergency cases.

The new health crisis has caused many to take the vaccine according to the

Ministry of Health. Its online tracker shows more than 500,605 persons in Jamaica have so far received Pfizer, AstraZeneca, or Johnson & Johnson doses. Still,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



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CHANGING THE CURRENT.

Deported Caribbean Immigrant Veteran Back In The US 10 Years Later

A Caribbean immigrant veteran who served his country but was then deported from the US and forced to live more than a decade away from his family, is finally back in the U.S.

U.S. Navy veteran Howard Bailey, who was born in Jamaica, was reunited this week with his family in Virginia after living 10 years in exile in Jamaica after being deported in 2010.

That's all thanks to the work on his behalf of The National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) and the Immigrant Defense Project (IDP).

"Eleven years ago, I went to bed with my family and woke up to be snatched away from my home and family—dragged out by ICE officers while my children watched," said Bailey. "While I fought my case for two years in immigration detention someone inside said to me 'hey man—here, hope is dead. What are you hoping for?' These past 11 years I thought he was right, but today I am home, and I feel hope is alive again after so long."

Bailey served for four years in the U.S. Navy, including during Operation Desert Storm. But ICE ripped him



Deported Caribbean immigrant veteran Howard Bailey is welcomed home in Virginia on August 16, 2021.

from his family for detention and deportation based on a marijuana conviction later pardoned by the governor of Virginia and despite his lawful permanent resident status.

Bailey was one of 11 deported individuals featured in NIJC's April 2021 white paper A Chance to Come Home: A Roadmap to Bring Home the Unjustly Deported, which urged the Biden administration to adopt a centralized process to give unjustly deported individuals a meaningful chance to come home.

"When I was deported, my family's entire lives went down the drain. I was the main provider, and they were left financially drained—they could barely survive. The emotional devastation gripped my mother, my siblings, my children — my deportation was a negative chain effect for every single person in my family," said Bailey. "This is not something I wish on anyone — I would never want to live and see any other family go through what my family went through."

Bailey recently testified from Jamaica about his experiences before a U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee hearing led by U.S. Senator Alex Padilla. Following that hearing, Senator Padilla sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security urging the agency to reopen Mr. Bailey's immigration proceedings and grant him humanitarian parole.

"Howard Bailey fought for our country and I'm proud to fight for him. I'm relieved that our calls to bring him home were heard by the Biden administration and that Howard will soon be reunited with his family," said Senator Padilla. "But we cannot let up the fight. There are thousands of additional veterans who deserve this same consideration. We must continue to undo the harmful immigration policies that are hurting our veterans, service members, and their families — including obstacles to pathways to citizenship imposed by the Trump administration."

Bailey is one of thousands of Black and Brown immigrants unjustly deported after contact with the U.S. criminal legal system. NIJC said it is urging the Biden administration to use its discretion to bring home others like Bailey and to establish a review process to systematically consider requests

for return

"While momentous, Howard's homecoming should not be an exception in the U.S. immigration system," said Nayna Gupta, associate director of policy at NIJC. "We urge the Biden administration to follow through on its promises to honor family unity and redress racial injustice by creating a centralized process based on existing laws to review the cases of all unjustly deported individuals so that others like Howard have a meaningful chance to come home."

"For the eight years that I have represented Howard at the Immigrant Defense Project and Just Counsel, I have watched him fight for himself and others in the face of unjust laws that cruelly exiled him from his family and home," said Alisa Wellek, founding attorney at Just Counsel and former executive director of IDP. "I am grateful to Howard's incredible legal and advocacy team, Senator Padilla, and the Biden Administration for beginning to right this wrong and hope Howard will be the first of many who have suffered under these laws to come home."

"Howard's case exemplifies how the entanglement of the criminal legal and immigration systems devastates communities of color," said Jane Shim, Senior Policy Attorney at IDP. "The Immigrant Defense Project will continue fighting the unjust laws that permanently separate people from their communities and supporting immigrants who are fighting to return home."

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



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Jamaican Government Fighting Spike In COVID-19 Cases, Deaths And Vaccine Hesitancy

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3) approximately 140 are fully vaccinated as of press time.

On Tuesday, August 24th, the government reported that it had successfully vaccinated 21,000 Jamaicans as the island pushes for complete vaccinations to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Jamaican government has set an ambitious target of vaccinating 65 percent of the population by March 2022 and wants to get at least 700,000 persons fully vaccinated by the end of this September.

On August 27th, The Mona Campus of The University of the West Indies (UWI) became the first major institution in Jamaica to publicly issue a vaccine mandate as it advised that all students living on its halls of residence will be



Jamaica is pushing vaccines to combat the spike in COVID-19 virus even as a digital tracking system installed by UNICEF has now allowed health workers there to record vaccination data and improve real-time decision-making around emergency immunization efforts. (Photo courtesy of Gail Hoad/PAHO)

required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by September 3rd.

It's now left to be seen if they can prevail against the virus, hesitancy, and fear. (Written and reported by Howard Campbell for Caribbean Today. Edited By Felicia J. Persaud)





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Pope Donates Over \$200,000 To Help Haiti Earthquake Relief



A woman navigates what's left of her home in Southwestern Haiti after the August 14, 2021 quake. (Samaritan Purse image)

Pope Francis has donated over US 200,000 from charity funds at his personal disposal to help with emergency relief in Haiti in the aftermath of the Aug. 14 earthquake that killed more than 2,000 people.

The Vatican said the sums were initial contributions and would be administered through its embassies. Haiti is a predominantly Catholic nation. Much of the charity money at the pope's personal disposal comes from Peter's Pence, a fund to which Catholics can contribute for general or specific causes.

The fund amounts to 50 million euros in 2020, according to a consolidated financial statement issued last month.

IN HAITI

The news comes as many survivors of an earthquake that killed more than 2,200 people in southern Haiti are worried about providing for their children, with more than half a million minors feared to be at risk from the fallout.

The Aug. 14th quake hammered infrastructure, destroying or damaging some 130,000 homes, cutting off roads and pitching thousands of families in the Western Hemisphere's poorest country into an uncertain future.

When the magnitude 7.2 quake struck, homemaker Lovely Jean was resting inside the general hospital of the southern city of Les Cayes, while her three-day-old baby, Love Shaiska, was in the neonatal ward being treated for an infection.

Les Cayes was one of the areas worst hit by the quake, and as the hospital walls trembled. Jean sent her husband, Pierre Alexandre, to grab the infant while she fled the building.

"The earth was shaking and I was crying, so scared of what was happening," the

24-year-old said, cradling her child on the porch of their damaged home in a tiny village outside the town of Camp-Perrin, northwest of Les Cayes.

The three survived, though the hospital suffered damage that forced some of its departments, including the neonatal ward, to operate outside for days after the disaster.

But the problems were only beginning for Jean and her husband, a subsistence farmer.

Alexandre's fields were buried by landslides during the earthquake and rain unleashed by Tropical Storm Grace, which pummeled Haiti days after the quake. His entire potato and yuca crop was unreachable, leaving the family with barely any food to eat.

Meanwhile, Love Shaiska was struggling to suckle, forcing her parents to pull together cash to buy formula. "I don't know what we'll do," said Alexandre, 30.

More than a dozen other parents who spoke to Reuters in the quake zone expressed similar concerns about how they would cope.

Over half a million children were affected by the earthquake, the U.N. children's agency UNICEF said.

Recovery efforts have been impeded by flooding and damage to roads, feeding tensions in hard-hit areas. In the past few days, residents have looted aid trucks in several towns across the south, stirring concerns about security.

Deep in the mountains of Haiti's southern peninsula, in the department of Grand'Anse, near the town of Duchity, about a hundred farmers are living in slender tents of wooden poles and bedsheets they erected along the highway. The quake destroyed their homes, crops and the deep concrete-lined holes used to collect and store rainwater.

Now, with scant food

and water, many of the young children suffer from hunger, fevers and infections, said Evelya Michele, a mother of five living in the encampment.

At least a dozen children had broken out in rashes.

"The children are very

vulnerable; there is no water so we can't even wash them to keep them clean," Michele

Her older children had taken off earlier that morning, walking to a nearby village in search of food.

"I didn't send them; they just left without even asking me because they are hungry," she

~ Rewritten from Reuters





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Jamaica Expands Digital Currency Roll-Out customer take-up would be up the communication so [the communication

The Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) will expand implementation of its local Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), this month.

Deputy Governor, Natalie Haynes, indicated that National Commercial Bank (NCB), has been engaged as the initial wallet (account) provider under the pilot, which ends in December, The CBDC will be issued to NCB this month and the bank is expected to initiate its rollout to customers

'They are targeting, first, what they call friends and family, which would be staff and their families, then they will go to

Just weeks after the election of a new government in St. Lucia, another Caribbean country is heading to the polls.

Bahamians will go to the polls on September 16th, eight months before a general election is constitutionally due, Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis announced on August 18th. PM Minnis stressed that whoever emerges victorious will have to make key decisions on the way forward in the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governor-General Sir



Bank of Jamaica Governor Richard Byles is confident of the CBDC roll-

other NCB account holders, prior to moving to other non-NCB account holders," the Deputy Governor outlined.

Haynes said it is anticipated that details of the CBDC

forthcoming in October

Meanwhile both Governor, Richard Byles, and Haynes said that there has been positive feedback, so far to the CBDC's introduction.

Byles said there was some degree of skepticism up to a year ago, but stakeholders were now more positively oriented to the CBDC implementation.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Governor said that based on the level of interest in CBDC, "it behooves the BOJ and the other [prospective] wallet providers to capitalize on that and ramp

up the communication so [that] we have full acceptability of the product."

CBDC is a digital form of central bank-issued currency and is therefore legal tender which can be exchanged dollar for dollar with physical cash.

Households and businesses will be able to use CBDC to, among other things, make payments, as now obtains with

CBDC is backed by the central bank and issued to authorized financial institutions, including deposit-taking institutions on a wholesale

basis, as is now being done with physical currency.

The anticipated benefits of CBDC for Jamaican citizens, businesses and the government, include increased financial inclusion, as it will provide another easier-to-access means of efficient and secured payments.

For deposit-taking institutions and BOJ itself, CBDC presents an opportunity to improve cash management processes and costs.

~ Rewritten from CMC



Another Caribbean Country Is Going To The Polls

Cornelius Smith dissolved Parliament to prepare for the election, which are not constitutionally due until May 2022.

Minnis' Free National Movement (FNM), defeated the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) in the last polls, winning 35 of the 39 seats in Parliament.

But he said the election was coming amidst "the worst public health crisis in our modern history," referring to the COVID-19 pandemic that has affected the entire globe

and resulted in the deaths of millions.

With the election date now set, Dr. Minnis urged Bahamians to ensure that the country's long and proud tradition of peaceful elections continues, and he urged political parties to conduct their campaigns

in keeping with public health guidelines to ensure there is



Bahamian voters go to the poll on Sept. 16th.

no further spread of the deadly COVID-19.

The Bahamas has reported

close to 17,000 cases of COVID-19 and over 300 deaths. In 2020, GDP decreased by an estimated 16.3 percent due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the unemployment rate is over 25 percent. However, GDP is expected to pick up to 2 percent in 2021 and 8.5 percent in 2022, subject to the post-pandemic global economic recovery according to IMF forecasts.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



Here's What Jeopardy's Mike **Richards Said About Haiti**



Mike Richards' nasty comments on Haiti has come back to bite him.

The man picked to replace Alex Trebek as host of popular trivia show, "Jeopardy!," is out, but his words, including on Haiti, lives on in the public sphere. Mike Richards, who was the producer of the show, stepped down from his brief tenure as host after a report about past racist comments surfaced.

Richards had made the comments on a 2013-14 podcast he co-hosted with Beth Triffon titled, "The Randumb Show," The Ringer website revealed. On one of the episodes, when Triffon mentioned problems with her apartment, Richards reportedly said: "Does Beth live, like, in Haiti?"

"Doesn't it sound like that?" Richards reportedly added.

"Like, the urine smell, the woman in the muumuu, the stray cats."

Richards, in stepping aside, has not actually apologized, but said that "it's more than clear that my attempts to be funny and provocative were not acceptable, and I have removed the episodes."

Comedian and Late Show host, Stephen Colbert, slammed the action, calling it an "interesting" apology. He also compared it to saying, "I know I drove drunk and plowed through your rose garden, and to prove I'm sorry, I recycled my empty liquor bottles."

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



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Black Floridians Are Lagging Way Behind In Getting Vaccinated

When it comes to COVID-19 vaccinations, Black Floridians are still lagging way behind. According to the latest data from the Kaiser Family Foundation, vaccination rates for Black Floridians are much lower than for white Floridians.

Only 9 percent are currently vaccinated even though they make up 46 percent of the population in the state and 15 percent of COVID-19 infections and 17 percent of deaths. By contrast, 56 percent of Whites are vaccinated and 31 percent Hispanics.

Florida's Department



need photo caption

of Health reported that race/ ethnicity was known for 85% of the more than 12 million residents who had received at least one dose of a vaccine.

Among that group, about 985,000 people, or 8% of the total, were Black. White residents accounted for more

than 7.7 million, or about 64% of the total, according to the health department.

A low vaccination rate among African Americans across the country has spurred a renewed push among government officials to increase uptake of the vaccine among that

Speaking at a recent White House conference, Dr. Rachel Villanueva, a physician and professor at New York University's Grossman School of Medicine, said COVID-19 has disproportionately affected Black people, many of whom cannot work from home during the pandemic or take paid time off to get vaccinated.

"The pandemic has unmercifully ravaged our communities," said Villanueva, who is president of the National Medical Association, the largest organization representing African American doctors.

HOW TO GET THE VACCINE

Florida has many sites that are providing COVID-19 vaccines free of cost, including the Pfizer vaccine that has been approved now by the FDA.

Appointments may be required, so review the location's instructions. Select your city and zip code to find the closest location by logging on to https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/

vaccines/vaccine-locator/.

GETTING A COVID-19 TEST

Find PCR COVID-19 test sites in South Florida as follows:

Miami-Dade-County miamidade.gov/global/ initiatives/coronavirus/testinglocations.page

Broward County broward.org/CoronaVirus/ pages/collection-sites.aspx

Palm Beach county https://discover.pbcgov.org/ coronavirus/Pages/testing-sites. aspx



Miami Carnival Returns For 37th Year Celebration



Miami Carnival returns to in-person events.

The 37th annual Miami Carnival returns in-person this Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 8-10th, at The Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition, Inc. (10901 SW 24th St, Miami, Florida, but the message is clear: "No Mask, No Mas."

Officials of the Miami Broward One Carnival Host Committee (MBOCHC) and the South Florida Carnival Bandleaders Association say the safety and health of the Miami Carnival's masquerade bands, steel bands, vendors, volunteers, performers, sponsors, and patrons are at the forefront of this year's planning and production of the Miami Carnival Celebration.

As such, patrons will also be required to present a negative PCR Test that needs to be done no earlier than October 6th before entering all of the official Miami Carnival events on October 8th.

There will also be a temperature check at each entrance point, and attendees who do not have hand sanitizer will be provided with a small bottle.

Carnival organizers say they are working closely with county medical and park department officials in Miami-Dade and Broward County, to ensure safety of all participants with reduced capacity and strict adherence to recommended CDC COVID guidelines.

"We are excited to once again able to showcase the

Miami Carnival in person. We have missed being able to present our pageantry, music, and Caribbean Culture with everyone," said Joan Hinkson-Justin, Chair, Miami Broward One Carnival Host Committee. "Our committee has been diligently working with both Miami -Dade, and Broward Counties to ensure that we can plan our cultural event, with the health and safety of our stakeholders

and patrons as a key part of that plan."

This year's carnival will kick-off at 4 p.m. on Oct. 8th with at the Miami-Dade County Fairgrounds in Miami with Panorama. Sticks N Tones, New Generation Branches Steel Orchestra, Resurrection Steele Orchestra, Melo Grove Steel Orchestra, Lauderhill Steel Ensemble and Metro Steel Orchestra will compete for the title of reigning pan champ this

This will be followed on Sat. Oct. 9th with J'Ouvert from 7 a.m. and the Parade & Concert on Sunday, Oct 10th from 11 a.m.

Bands for this year's carnival parade are: One Island Band, Freaks Mas, Ramajay International, Dingolay Mas, Revel Nation, GenX, Euphoria Production, K-Paya, Savage Mas, Mascots International, DJunction Mas, Party Room Squad / Fusion Mas, Break Awae Kru, Wassi One / Natural Disasters, Collective Mas and Ti-Chapo Mas.

This year's concert on Oct. 10th from 1 p.m. will be headlined by-Bunji Garlin + Fayann Lyons and the Viking Band. Other performers will be Ravi B & Karma-3x Chutney Soca Monarch, Dil E Nadan, The A Team Band, Iwer George, Motto, Nadia Baston, Teddyson John & Band, Patrice Roberts,

Julien Believe, Asa Banton, Wendy & DJ Judgement, Destra Garcia, Skinny Banton and Jeran Pacasio.

This is a ticketed event that ranges from US \$30, 35 and 40, respectively of US\$100 for all three events. The VIP package is

The Miami Jr. Carnival will be postponed to 2022 to ensure that all children under 12 have a chance to be vaccinated.

If you plan to take the park and ride bus, you will be required to wear a mask at all times and present a negative PCR Test that needs to be done no earlier than Wednesday, October 6th. This will be required before boarding the bus on Friday-October 8th: 4 p.m.-midnight; Saturday-October 9th: 5a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday-October 10: 9 a.m.-midnight as follows:

Lauderdale Performing Arts

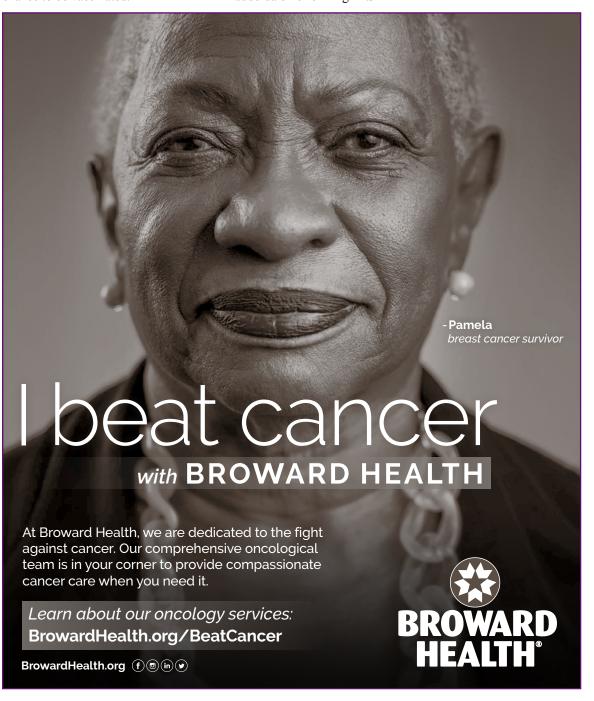
Center-3800 NW 11th Place, Lauderhill, Fl 33311

Golden Glades Interchange-1600 State Rd 9, Miami, Fl 33169

Tropical Park-7900 SW 40th Street, Miami, Fl 33155

For more details on next month's carnival, log on to https://miamicarnival.org/





Five Things To Know About The Woman Who Could Be Barbados' Next President

Queen as head of state with a President as the country moves to become a republic by November 30th. Here are five things you should know about her.

1: She is Dame Sandra Prunella Mason, GCMG, DA, QC, who is the 8th Governor-General of Barbados, with a term beginning on January 8, 2018. She could become the first President of Barbados and its first female President as well if approved by Parliament in November.

2: Dame Sandra was born on January 17, 1949, in East Point, Saint Philip, Barbados. She went on to attend and graduate from St. Catherine's Primary School and Queen's College, and soon after became a teacher at the Princess Margaret Secondary School in 1968. The following year, she went to work at Barclays Bank as a clerk and was promoted to Trust Administrator for the period 1975-



Dame Sandra Prunella Mason is set to be Barbados' first President as the country moves to become a Republic.

1976. She was later transferred to Barclays Bank Jamaica Ltd., then returned to Barbados and continued her banking career with Barclays Finance Corporation.

Mason enrolled in the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill, earning her Bachelor of Laws in 1973. In doing so, she became the first Barbadian female Attorney-at-Law to have graduated from the Hugh

Wooding Law School. She was admitted to the bar to begin her practice on November 10, 1975, becoming the first woman member of the Barbados Bar Association.

3: In 1978, Mason began working as the Magistrate of the Juvenile and Family Court and simultaneously tutoring in family law at UWI. She stopped tutoring in 1983 and continuing as magistrate. In 1988, she completed the Royal Institute of Public Administration in London's course on Judicial Administration.

Mason left the family court in 1992to serve as an ambassador to Venezuela and was the first woman magistrate from Barbados to serve in that position. Dame Sandra also served as Ambassador to Chile, Colombia and Brazil for the period 1993-1994. Upon her return to Barbados, in 1994, she was appointed as Chief Magistrate for Barbados and then in 1997 became the Registrar of the Supreme Court. She continued to serve as Registrar of the Supreme Court until 2005, when she was appointed as Queen's Counsel to the Inner Bar of Barbados. In 2008, Mason was sworn in as an Appeals Judge, becoming the first woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals. In 2013, she was the first Barbadian appointed to membership in the Commonwealth Secretariat

Arbitral Tribunal (CSAT). The Tribunal operates among members of the Commonwealth of Nations to resolve issues concerning contract disputes.

4: Dame Sandra has also worked in other arenas internationally and regionally. In 1991, at the inception of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, she began serving and was named the vice chair from 1993 to 1995 and chair from 1997 to 1999. Between 1991 and 1992, she also was one of the two women appointed to the 13-member CARICOM commission charged with evaluating regional integration.

5: Dame Sandra was appointed a Dame Grand Cross in the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George after being appointed governor general and became the Chancellor. She is 72 years old and has one son, Matthew. Dame Sandra also takes an avid interest in reading, playing scrabble, watching cricket and travelling.

~ NewsAmericasNow



New Haiti Quake Revives Anger, Mistrust

BY LAURA GOTTESDIENER **AND DAVE GRAHAM**

The earthquake that ravaged Haiti on August 14, 2021 has revived anger and mistrust over international aid agencies' response to a devastating quake there 11 years ago, stirring calls to ensure donations do a better job of reaching the people who need them most.

Haitians and well-wishers have taken to social media to urge donors to send money directly to Haitian charities or via the government, criticizing what they saw as misuse of funds after the 2010 quake and a major hurricane in 2016.

Despite billions of dollars in aid, Haiti has slipped down global development rankings, violence is widespread, and its institutions were already in turmoil when President Jovenel Moise was shot dead last month by what the government says was a group of largely Colombian mercenaries.

The August 14th quake has so far killed over 2,200 people and injured thousands more.

It prompted pledges of support from U.N. bodies, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Red Cross and governments around the world.

But with the scars of the last quake still visible in the Caribbean nation's capital Portau-Prince, there are calls for the aid response to be different this time.

"It's just a matter of trying to get money into as many individual people's hands in Haiti as possible," said Jonathan Katz, a journalist and author of "The Big Truck That Went By," a damning critique of the international response to the 2010 earthquake, which killed more



UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed visits Les Cayes in Haiti after it was devastated by a 7.2-magnitude earthquake on Aug. 14, 2021. (UNOCHA/ Matteo Minasi image)

than 200,000 people.

"The world had 11 years to prepare for the next earthquake. We did not," he added. "Don't shuffle money from the State Department to the Defense Department by way of USAID and tell the world that that was money for Haiti."

Much of the U.S. military spending right after the natural disaster was more focused on preventing social unrest and deterring mass migration than rebuilding, said Katz.

The Pentagon did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Monday. The State Department said that, while it spent money evacuating staff and U.S. citizens and keeping the local embassy operating in 2010, its diplomatic programs had "no relation" to security assistance, military spending or migration programs.

USAID, which has dispatched a team to Haiti to help relief efforts, pointed Reuters to recent congressional testimony by Barbara Feinstein, acting senior deputy assistant administrator within its bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Feinstein highlighted improvements in infant mortality rates in Haiti and said that in 2020 alone, USAID had supported the

vaccination of more than 75,000 children there and provided care to tens of thousands of women and newborn babies.

USAID had also benefited local farming, with its investments supporting 105,000 farmers to adopt new technologies, generating nearly \$30 million in agricultural sales, she said.

MISSING AID

Haiti's government complained after the 2010 quake that aid was too slow to materialize. Six months after the disaster, it said it had received less than 2 percent of the promised support, despite pledges by the U.N. special envoy for Haiti, former U.S. President Bill Clinton, to "build Haiti back

A 2012 study by Tulane University found that while some aid exceeded the population's needs in affected areas, humanitarian efforts did not contribute significantly to making Haiti more resilient to disasters and may even have "caused harm."

It argued the humanitarian response often undermined Haitian organizations due to the poaching of staff, and because they could not compete with

larger, international NGOs for support, or lacked access to the decision-making process. The American Red Cross in particular has been singled out for what critics said was the low impact of some \$500 million in donations it received after the 2010 quake.

Donate to HAITIAN ORGANIZATIONS ONLY! Please! Can't stress this enough. Haiti Based ONLY," Jessie Woo, a Haitian-American comedienne, said on Twitter. "DO NOT DONATE ANY MONEY TO THE RED CROSS REGARDING HAITI.'

The American Red Cross has said it spent 91 cents of every dollar of that money in programs to help the people of Haiti.

In a statement to Reuters, the American Red Cross said it "strongly disputes negative reporting of our past work in Haiti" and had made a significant impact there.

This included investment in more than 50 hospitals and clinics, safer housing for more than 22,000 families, funding for Haiti's first wastewater treatment plant and support for the country's first-ever cholera vaccination campaign.

"Americans donated generously in the aftermath of the 2010 Haiti earthquake to save lives – which is exactly what their donations did," it said.

MISTRUST

Controversies linked to foreign intervention have reinforced a sense of public mistrust.

A sexual misconduct scandal that surfaced in 2018 centering on Oxfam International tarnished the name of relief workers in Haiti,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

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THERE, I SAIDIT, GOT A LOAD FMY CHEST, I FEEL BETTER NOW!

Over 800,000 Migrants At The Southern Border Cannot All Be Given Asylum

As an immigrant and someone who has been advocating for immigration reform since 1997, I feel caught between a rock and a hard place when it comes to my reaction to the obvious border crisis at the U.S.' Southern border.

The immigration crisis at the US' Southern border is now unlike anything seen in the past two decades. In fact, data shows that so far, this fiscal year, over 845,307 persons have been encountered by

border agents compared to 796,400 during the same period in fiscal 2019. All are trying to enter the US for what they perceive to be a better life.



PERSAUD at the southern border in July alone, a 13 percent increase from June. Many more, including Haitian and African migrants are stuck in South and Central American countries like Colombia and Panama, as they

FELICIA J.

also try to make it to America, that shining beacon on a hill – or so they presume.

The spike in illegal immigration in the midst of the pandemic, sadly comes just when many I like many, felt immigration reform to help those living in an undocumented capacity within the borders of the US would finally become a reality.

But unlike many advocates who are highly critical of the Joe Biden administration response at the border, especially when it comes to restarting removal flights of Central American migrants to southern Mexico, I completely support the measure.

Why? Because the reality is that there is no way over 800,000 people qualify for or can be given asylum in the US in a matter of months. What happens when another 800,000 follows on their

heels? Do we let them in too?

How can any country simply welcome all these new migrants in while millions of DREAMERS and undocumented immigrants who have been living here for decades, need assistance and a path to legalization themselves? These are the immigrants who we should be supporting and advocating for because their commitment to this country is without question.

It's absolute madness, regardless of how highly you rank on the liberal scale to support an open border asylum policy for anyone who crosses the line.

The focus must be on immigrants in America who need legalization now and not on adding to the rolls of the undocumented in the midst of a pandemic. They are paying taxes and growing our economies and should be given the

This is a sad but necessary reality that we must face, and that the Joe Biden administration must firmly stand on.

The President's immigration czar and Veep, Kamala Harris, needs to be making this clear, not hiding in the shadows behinds reports of phone calls on the hot button issue and leaving the immigrant born Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas out in front.

Mayorkas is absolutely right when he said recently: "Our mission is to protect the American public and to administer the laws of our nation. Consistent with that, our efforts will uphold our laws, and will uphold our values. That includes the laws of humanitarian relief, as well as the laws of enforcement. We will work relentlessly to thwart illegal immigration and to adjudicate asylum claims fairly and efficiently."

That is not xenophobic, illegal or anti-immigrant – it is commonsense and reality.

~ The writer is publisher of *NewsAmericasNow*

Confession

Is it really best to confess? It is said that confession is good for the soul, and it's also said that confession is an act of honesty and courage.

Certain religious denominations, such as Catholicism, take confession so seriously that it's actually a ritual that they go through regularly, as they sit in a darkened booth across from a priest and confess their

Usually after the confession the person is told to recite Hail Mary's numerous times, depending on the severity of the sins to atone for his or her transgressions. Many people spend a lifetime doing this.

I guess it's a sort of catharsis, an unburdening of your sins that makes you feel lighter afterwards. Some men confess to bartenders, while others seek out psychiatrists. Some women may confess to their friends, but that can be dangerous as people do tend to chat and carry your business all over town.

Anyway, all that advice about confessing being good for the soul was from long ago. That was then, but I really wonder how wise it is to confess your past to your current partner in these modern

If you saw the wife of your best friend sneaking around with another man, holding hands, kissing, and snuggling, should you tell him what you saw, or carry it to your grave?

To compound matters and add to your dilemma, should you tell your friend that his wife whom you saw sneaking into a hotel room with that other guy, also dated you many years ago?

That can seriously impact the present and shatter the future. Should you let sleeping dogs lie? Sometimes people do not take confessions very well, and many even resent the confessor for unloading all that disturbing historical data on them. "If you were my true friend, you wouldn't have told me all that hurtful

information, especially after all these years."

And yet, on the flip side, the person may say: "Why did you wait so long to tell me? Thank you anyway." Shouldn't there be a statute of limitations on confessions?

There was this lady who confessed to her

husband that she had an affair fifty years ago, a year after they got married. The man filed for divorce immediately.

There are women who choose not to confess their history of transgressions to their men, for they know from experience that a man's fragile ego cannot handle certain types of confession.

How would you feel if after being married for sixteen years, your wife came to you and said: "Honey, I have a confession to make, before I met you, I dated your best man!" Her conscience that bothered her for years, drove her to make that confession, "There, I said it, got a load off my chest, I feel better now.'

But what about the person hearing the confession? That burden that you unloaded has to go somewhere.

There are women who also confessed to having secret children prior to their marriage but gave them up before for adoption. After years of torment, she confesses to her husband with disastrous consequences. "Say what? You had a child for another man and never told me, how can I ever trust you again?"

On the other hand, there are



TONY ROBINSON

men who sire children out of wedlock and never confess this fact. For the few who do confess, there are mixed results. Some wives have walked out upon hearing that confession, while others

forgave the man and accepted the reality of that child.

Many sayings about confessions were from a nobler time, where honor, civility, class and forgiveness were the order of the day. Nowadays, in this unforgiving world, it may be quite risky to confess to your spouse.

Imagine your husband telling you: "Honey, I must confess I've been sleeping with your sister," or your wife saying" "Babes, I was a part time escort while in university to pay my tuition."

Think before you confess!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tony Robinson can be reached at seido1yard@gmail.



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New Haiti Quake Revives Anger, Mistrust

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8) while a cholera outbreak linked to U.N. peacekeepers in the country after the 2010 quake led to thousands of deaths.

Even as countries like Mexico began flying in aid, Haiti's government urged donors to go through its civil protection agency to better coordinate efforts

"As we want to avoid the proliferation of tented camps, the ministry asks NGOs to distribute tents and tarpaulins to the identified people whose homes have been damaged to enable them to spend the night close to their residence," it said.

Over 1 million survivors of the 2010 quake spent months in makeshift tent camps crammed into Port-au-Prince, exposing

them to the elements, lawlessness and the cholera outbreak.

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) said that Haiti's government was preparing a needs list and had asked for cash donations so humanitarian goods could be bought in the country. A major criticism of the 2010 response was that imports of foreign aid damaged Haitian farming and commerce.

One diplomat, who asked not to be identified, expressed confidence that the ad hoc government Haiti had assembled after Moise's assassination seemed to be taking a "big leap forward" in coordinating aid efforts.

But Haiti, which has only just begun administering its first publicly distributed vaccines against COVID-19, may not be in the spotlight as much this time, with events such as the U.S. pullout from Afghanistan dominating the news, argued

"I think it's going to get a lot less attention than the 2010 earthquake," he said.

~ Reuters

(Reporting by Laura Gottesdiener in Port-au-Prince and Dave Graham in Mexico City Additional reporting by Sarah Marsh in Havana and Kate Chappell in Kingston Writing by Dave Graham Editing by Daniel Flynn and Matthew Lewis)

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From Tragedy To Triumph: Toward A Government Of National Inclusion/Unity In Haiti

BY DR. RON DANIELS

Tragedy and triumph is a recurring theme in the history of Haiti, the world's first Black Republic. It was a horrific tragedy that Africans were enslaved via the Europe slave trade and forcibly relocated to Ayiti to be the forced free labour for what would become the richest colony in the Caribbean.

It was one of the greatest triumphs in the history of the world when enslaved Africans rose-up to decimate the armed forces of Napoleon Bonaparte to establish an independent nation, the world's first Black Republic; the first time in the history of humankind that an enslaved people rebelled against the slave masters to create an independent nation.

In so doing, the Haitian freedom fighters shattered the myth of "white supremacy" at a time when Eurocentric theories of racial superiority and inferiority were gaining currency. The Haitian Revolution was the greatest revolution of all time!

Protest and violence have rocked Haiti in recent months (File Photo)

The tragedy is that Haiti has been punished ever since, stigmatized, marginalized, embargoed, invaded and subjected to chronic interference in its affairs by European powers and the United States. But, despite persistent class contradictions and related tensions, the Haitian people, particularly the Haitian masses have been remarkably resilient

Through all the trials and tribulations, the spirit of the Revolution is embedded deep into the soul, consciousness and culture of the Haitian people who yearn for and are willing to fight for democracy and development that is worthy of the dreams of the Freedom Fighters, the sons and daughters, who founded the first Black Republic.

Ultimately, it is this spirit which will triumph as Haiti struggles to overcome the oftenturbulent head winds of external and internal contradictions. People of African descent and people of goodwill globally owe an enormous debt to Haiti.

Therefore, our mission in the time of trouble is to wrap our supportive arms around the Haitian people, with all the complexities and contradictions, confident that eventually the spirt of the Revolution as manifest in the aspirations of the people will triumph. This background is crucial to the consideration of contemporary crises in Haiti.

The tragic, brutal, mysterious assassination of President Jovenel Moise on July 7th, after months of turmoil and massive, paralyzing protests, stunned the nation. Many observers fear that the vacuum created by his demise will plunge



Another earthquake in Haiti has led to more deaths and devastation, this time in the southwestern part of the country. (UNICEF/UN image)

the nation deeper into turmoil.

The current crisis occasioned by the assassination of the head of state is exacerbated by the recent death of the Chief Justice of Haiti's Supreme Court, whom the Constitution designates to become the interim President under circumstances like the present.

Moreover, President
Moise was ruling by decree
because elections for the Haitian
Parliament had not occurred.
So, in effect every branch of
government has been decapitated,
creating a rudderless State. In the
void there is a scramble for power
between various leaders, parties
and factions eager to seize the
reins of governance.

Unfortunately, corruption in the political class runs deep in Haitian society. So, the fierce jockeying for power among far too many political leaders is to gain access to the public trough as a source of self-aggrandizement. The long -suffering Haitian people, the masses of the people rightly view this scramble for power with anger, frustration and a sense of betrayal.

The defining question is where is the critical mass of leaders, organizations and institutions that will put the interest of the Haitian people and the nation, first? And what is the way forward out of yet another crisis of governance? Anxious to avoid another flood of Haitian refugees knocking at the door for asylum, the U.S., Canada and nations of the Caribbean also have a vital stake in the answer to the question.

Plagued by coup after coup and intervention after intervention for decades after the overthrow of the U.S. backed Duvalier dictatorship, a nascent Haitian democracy has repeatedly faced the challenge of cobbling a way forward under trying circumstances.

In my view, Haiti's young democracy has also suffered from a near-fatal weakness, a

western style "winner take all" governmental system and political culture where leaders, parties, factions and constituencies engage in fierce competition, bordering on mortal combat to gain access to the "spoils" of power!

This is not true of every leader, party or faction, but "winner take all" is a dominant factor in Haiti's political culture. This immediately creates the problem of envy, antagonism and resistance by the losers who are locked out of access to the spoils of power! The answer to this cultural predicament would seem obvious, share power, share access to the benefits of governance.

I am convinced that emulating western forms of "democratic" governance characterized by winner take all processes are not suited for most nations in the Pan African world This is particularly relevant to African nations where ethnic rivalries and tensions can be combustible within borders artificially drawn up by European colonialists.

The same applies for the nations of the Caribbean, including Haiti, where competition between factions, parties and constituencies can be destructive. My preference is that people of African descent devise democratic systems of governance rooted in the values and principles that foster collaboration, cooperation and collective pursuit of goals for the betterment of society; values and principles deeply rooted in the traditional way of life of African people: Umoja (Unity); Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility); and, Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) as celebrated during Kwanzaa.

In my judgement, the second term of President Rene Preval embodied these principles as a central feature of his style of governance. While Preval was not a charismatic leader, his penchant for dialogue and quiet/ calm demeanour was effective in dealing with political rivals, contentious personalities, parties and factions.

Most important, Preval was honest, a man of integrity who was committed to bringing various leaders, parties, factions and constituencies around the table to share in the process and benefits of governance. By doing so, defacto Preval created a "government of inclusion or national unity." This lowered the temperature of competition between leaders, parties and factions.

By any reasonable measure, Preval's tenure was extraordinarily successful. Haiti's GNP took a major leap forward and the International Monetary Fund and World Bank gave his administration high marks for financial transparency and accountability – translation, corruption and the theft of public/governmental resources by politicians was minimalized.

As a result, the climate was conducive for significant foreign investment. I distinctly remember Haitian American business leaders outlining plans for various investments, including resortstyle hotels in Jacmel and other sites with the potential to attract tourism. Unfortunately, in one of the most tragic of tragic moments in Haiti's history, a devastating earthquake obliterated the progress Preval's administration had achieved.

Preval's low key style of governance was not equal to the task of rallying a bewildered nation to overcome the horrendous human, social and economic toll of the earthquake. Nonetheless, his style of governance and accomplishments of his administration should be viewed as a model that future governments can emulate to harness the potential of the Haitian people to achieve substantial success.

I recount the formula of success for Preval's administration

because Haiti's current crisis cries out for a government of national inclusion/unity as the way forward. Indeed, in January of 2017, in the midst of another moment of crisis, I penned an Essay entitled – Toward a Government of National Inclusion/Unity: Preval Showed the Way.

Ironically, it was written at the conclusion of a crisis which was ostensibly resolved with the election of the young, inexperienced, "Banana Man" Jovenel Moise to the office of President of Haiti. In my essay I tried to offer the new President some advice as follows: "If the President-Elect has the vision and courage to pursue this path, he will be following in the footsteps of former President Rene Preval who demonstrated the value of creating an inclusive government.

While Preval's noncharismatic temperament was not well suited to lead the country after the disastrous earthquake, it was ideal for the task of combating the negative habits and practices of the zero sum/ winner syndrome characteristic of too many of Haiti's presidential administrations. As President, Preval appointed rivals from different political parties and factions to his cabinet. In effect he shared leadership and the allocation of resources with his opponents."

I noted in the essay, that President Moise showed some early signs of following in Preval's footsteps, but apparently the allure of the "winner take all" game was too seductive and lucrative as the new President gradually succumbed to politics and business as usual.

The failures of President Moise's administration notwithstanding, his untimely and shocking murder create the challenge to move from tragedy to triumph. Click here to read the complete Essay with a full rationale for governments of national inclusion/unity.

So once again, I emphatically propose that the formation of an interim government of national inclusion/unity as the pathway out of the traumatic crisis the Haitian people now face. Moreover. I believe a culture of inclusion/ unity must become the centerpiece, the foundation of Haiti's system of governance in order to fulfil the unfulfilled promise of the Haitian Revolution! Given the turbulence and turmoil of these trying times, this may seem like a tall order, but I believe the Haitian people are up to the task. Ashe!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Ron Daniels is the President of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century and Founder of the Haiti Support Project.

~ Edited From CMC





Former Antigua & Barbuda Prime Minister Laid To Rest

A prominent former Caribbean prime minister was laid to rest on Thursday, following a state funeral and the declaration of a national holiday.

Antigua and Barbuda's former Prime Minister Sir Lester Bryant Bird was remembered as a selfless man who gave his all to his country and his family as he was laid to rest following a funeral service at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.

Several tributes were delivered at the funeral service, through messages, musical presentations and song, from political and other organizations, family members and other loved ones.

One of Sir Lester's daughters, Donyelle Bird-Browne, delivering the eulogy, reflected on his personal life and his contribution to the country he led from 1994 to 2000, succeeding his father, Sir Vere Cornwall Bird.

'My father was a man who gave," Bird-Browne said. "He was ingenious, and gave much to his work, to his country, to his friends and to his family. That is why, as

we gather here to say goodbye to him, I would like not to speak in mourning of his death but to speak in celebration of his life."

Prime Minister Gaston Browne told those gathered for Sir Lester's funeral service that Sir Lester was a special son of the soil, whose contribution spanned the areas of sports, politics and law. Sir Lester, who

was a national hero, died on August 9, 2021, at the age of 83. He served as prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda from 1994 to 2004.

Sir Lester was chairman of the Antigua Labour Party (ALP) from 1971 to 1983, then became prime minister when his father, Sir Vere Bird, the previous prime minister, resigned.

He was born in New York City on February 21, 1938, but



Sir Lester was laid to rest at St. John's Public Cemetery alongside his mother, Lady Lydia Bryant Bird on August 26, 2021. (CMC image)

educated at Antigua Grammar School and was brought up as a Methodist. Sir Lester was a cricketer in his youth, playing for the Leeward Islands, and a long jump champion. He won a bronze medal in the long jump at the 1959 Pan American Games in Chicago while representing the British West

He went on to attend the University of Michigan, where he was All-American long jumper in 1960 and graduated in 1962.

Sir Lester completed his study of law in Britain and was called to the bar at Gray's Inn in 1969. From 1969 to 1976, Bird engaged in private practice in Antigua.

His political career began in 1971, when he was nominated to the Senate. Sir Lester was named chairman of the ALP and the leader of the opposition in the Senate. He continued to serve as leader of the opposition until he was elected to

the House of Representatives at the 1976 elections, when the ALP returned to power.

Despite several scandals by his brother, Vere Bird, Jr., Lester Bird won the March 1994 elections with 11 out of 17 seats even as the opposition criticized the ALP over corruption issues.

In the 1999 elections, the ALP increased its parliamentary majority by one seat, holding 12

In the March 2004 election, the ALP was defeated by the United Progressive Party (UPP) led by Baldwin Spencer.

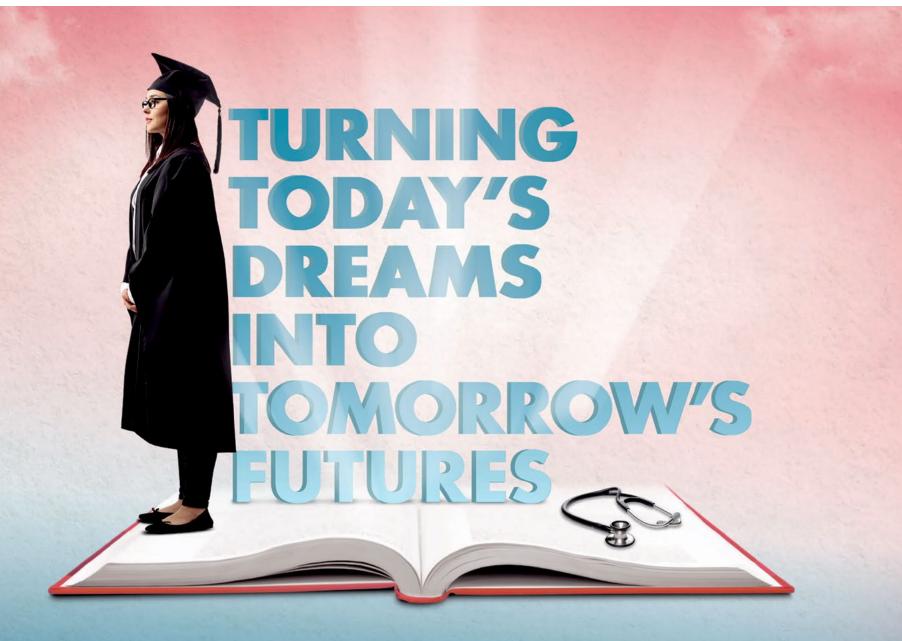
Bird remained the ALP's political leader following the party's 2004 defeat. He led the party in the March 2009 election; although the ALP lost the election, it gained 3 seats from the UPP and Bird defeated Cort by 96 votes in the St John's Rural East constituency, where he had lost in 2004. He subsequently held the position of Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

In 2014, he was made a Knight of the Order of the National Hero (KNH) by Antigua and Barbuda.

Sir Lester was laid to rest at St. John's Public Cemetery alongside his mother, Lady Lydia Bryant Bird.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com/CMC







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From A Deported Rapper To An Opposition Leader, Shyne Was Back In The US

Jailed, former Bad Boy rapper Shyne, was sent packing out of the US in 2009 as a deportee, back to his native country of Belize, following a stint in prison. His deportation meant he faced a ban from ever returning. But recently, he was back in the US and being heralded in Georgia.

Shyne, 42, whose real name is Jamal Michael Barrow, is now the new leader of the conservative opposition party in Belize. During the week of August 16-20th, he back in the US state of Georgia, where he

ALWAYS

REMEMBER

was presented with a medal of honor by Georgia State Senator Dr. Lester Jackson.

He also held meetings with other black Democratic politicians in Georgia, including Rep. Erica Thomas, vice chair of the Georgia Democratic Caucus and says he hopes to "strengthen relationships and establish new relationships to further the development of Belize."

The junior Barrow, until recently, held a seat in Belize's House of Representatives for a year before gaining his new

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Thursday, September 9, 2021 / 10:00 AM

9/11 Memorial – City Hall – 701 SW 71st Avenue

Let's join together to compassionately honor, remember and pay tribute to

those who were tragically killed on September 11, 2001, in the terrorist

attacks on America, as well as those who were injured during the attacks,

and the many who rose in service in response.

Presented by the City of North Lauderdale

Ana M. Ziade, Vice Mayor Mario Bustamante Commissioners Lorendo Wood, Samson Borgelin, Dr. Regina Martin

role. His father, Dean Barrow, served as prime minister of Belize until his party lost the elections.

Shyne became a well-known name in hip-hop in the late 1990s and early 2000s as mogul Sean "P. Diddy" Combs' protege under his Bad Boy Records label. He was involved in the infamous 1999 Club New York nightclub shooting where an argument between Combs and a partygoer led to a shootout that injured three people.

The "Bonnie and Shyne" singer, whose 2000 self-titled

platinum in sales, was convicted on two counts of assault, reckless endangerment and gun possession a year later and sentenced to 10 years in prison for his involvement in the shooting. He was released from jail in 2009 and detained by US Immigration and **Customs Enforcement** (ICE) before being deported back to Belize because he was only a green card holder.

A dozen years later, he was back in the US on an official visit after being given a US visa to travel here reportedly as a diplomat, based on help from Combs. Barrow says his next goal is to become the country's Prime Minister, but his plans have been threatened



Jamal Michael "Shyne" Barrow, the new leader of the conservative opposition party in Belize, r., meeting with Rep. Erica Thomas, vice chair of the Georgia Democratic Caucus. (Instagram image/ Shyne Barrow)

by attempts to pass bills that ban ex-cons from holding the position.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



This Reggae Pioneer Is No More

Reggae fans around the world were on Sunday stunned to learn of the passing of passing of the reggae pioneer, record producer and singer, Lee 'Scratch' Perry.

Jamaica's
Entertainment Minister,
Olivia Grange, revealed
that Perry died in the Noel
Holmes Hospital in the
western parish of Hanover.

She called him a
"giant of Jamaican music"
and lauded him for his
contribution to developing
and propelling Ska, Rocksteady
and Reggae has been mammoth.

Perry started as an apprentice to the legendary 'Sir Coxone' at Studio 1 in the 1950's and spent the rest of his life helping to develop Jamaican music. In addition to being an



Lee 'Scratch' Perry is no more.

outstanding producer and singer, he was also an inspirational figure who helped young singers and musicians to develop their

Some of Perry's great works with The Wailers have included 'Duppy Conqueror,' 'Small Axe,', 'Rastaman Live Up,' and 'Jah Live'.

Perry produced an impressive body of work that charts the evolution of Jamaican music - with more than 1,000 songs over 60 years. His latest release in 2019 was a 12-track album, 'Heavy Rain,' that topped the Billboard Reggae Album Charts.

"I recall his work with Bob Marley. It is said that 'Scratch' helped with formulating Marley's unique sound. The story is told that 'Scratch' gave his 'Upsetter' band to Marley and that band later became known as 'The Wailers'," said Grange. "What a man, what a music, what a life, what a genius! I am incredibly saddened by his passing, but I will continue to celebrate his genius and the body of work he's given us."

~ Edited from CMC



Caribbean Roots 11-Year-Old

Is 'Junior Chef Showdown'





Caribbean Recipe This Month

In the French Caribbean, Plantain Gratin is a favorite side dish made in myriad ways. But it never disappoints. Here's how to make it.

Plantain Gratin INGREDIENTS

- 3 lbs. green plantains, peeled
- Salt to taste
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 1 pinch ground nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 pinch cinnamon
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 cup grated cheddar cheese • 1 cup light cream or 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup fresh breadcrumb
- 2 eggs, beaten

Place plantains in saucepan and add just enough chicken stock to cover.

Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until bananas are tender, about 20 to 25 minutes.

Using a potato masher, mash until smooth (chicken stock will be absorbed).

Let cool slightly. Meanwhile, heat butter in a small frypan and sauté onions until tender.

Add the onions, cream, beaten eggs to cooked plantains until combined, season with salt, nutmeg and cinnamon to taste.

> Mixture will be quite moist. Place banana mixture in a



Plantain Gratin

buttered shallow baking dish. Combine cheese with breadcrumbs, sprinkle over top.

Bake at 350 for 35 - 40minutes or until top is golden. Bon Appetite

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



A Caribbean Meal Kit Is Now Available In The UK

Looking for Caribbean food made easy? Well, you are in luck if you live in the UK.

Jamaica company Grace Foods has launched a Caribbean meal kit in Tesco, a British multinational groceries and general merchandise retailer headquartered in Welwyn Garden City, England. It is the third-largest retailer in the world measured by gross revenues and the ninth largest in the world by revenues.

The range of the Irie Eats meal kits includes a microwaveable rice & peas side. Prices ranges between £1.75-£3.50/250g-515g. Others

• Irie Eats Spicy Jerk Wrap **Kit** (RRP £3.50, 460g) – Kit includes: x8 Soft Flour Wraps, x1 Jerk Paste sachet and x1 Jerk Seasoning sachet.

• Irie Eats Crunchy Jerk Wrap Kit (RRP £3.50, 515g) Kit includes: x8 Soft Flour Wraps, x1 Jerk BBQ Sauce sachet and x1 Crunchy Jerk Coating sachet.

• Irie Eats Spicy Jerk Meal **Kit** (RRP £3.50, 390g) – Kit includes: x1 microwave Rice & Peas pack, x1 Jerk Paste sachet and x1 Jerk Seasoning sachet.

• Irie Eats Caribbean Curry Meal Kit (RRP £3.50, 380g) - Kit includes: x1 microwave Rice & Peas pack, x1 Caribbean Curry Sauce sachet and x1 Herb & Coconut Mix sachet.

All products, according to Grace, are suitable for vegans and anyone can follow a simple five-step process to get the kits ready to serve.

Grace Foods cited 2021

Mintel data, which revealed that nearly half or 49% of Brits said they would like to try Caribbean cuisine at home. "This is a significant and exciting opportunity for us to introduce authentic, traditional and flavorful Caribbean meal solutions to a new consumer audience," Grace Foods brand manager Giuseppe Vullo was quoted as saying. "We're excited to continue building awareness of Caribbean food in the UK market, providing a delicious and easy-to-use range inspired by classic island favorites."

Irie Eats became available from August 11th exclusively in Tesco stores nationwide in the UK, with wider distribution from December.



'Junior Chef Showdown' competition. Nazaree Arandjelovic won the

A Toronto-born,

TV cooking competition on Food Network Canada's "Junior Chef Showdown."

old is the winner of the

"I wasn't the loudest chef in the kitchen," said Nazaree Arandjelovic of her time on the show, where according to her father, Owen Arandjelovic, she "just channeled her energy in creating her dishes.'

The dishes that Arandielovic created, which according to the Toronto Star she describes as "elevated comfort food," – gave classic recipes unexpected twists, with elements inspired by her Caribbean heritage.

Both first-generation Canadians, her parents were heavily influenced by the backgrounds of their own parents - who hailed from Curaçao, Trinidad and Jamaica - when it came to food, religion and entertainment.



Caribbean roots Nazaree Arandjelovic won the TV cooking competition on Food Network Canada's "Junior Chef Showdown."

"My family all gathers together at my grandma's for Sunday dinner, which is a big tradition in Caribbean culture," Arandjelovic was quoted as saying. "We have traditional Caribbean foods like rice and peas and stewed chicken."

Arandjelovic won the coveted championship title and \$25,000 in prize money.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



Miami Jamaican Restaurant In The Spotlight On Marcus Samuelsson's Docu.

Chef Marcus Samuelsson has put the spotlight on a Jamaican restaurant in South Florida, known for its jerk offerings as well as other Caribbean infused dishes like Fever Grass Shrimp. Dukunoo, a restaurant lounge in the heart of Wynwood, Miami that focuses on Jamaican cuisine, is now a part of Samuelsson's documentary titled: "You Have To Taste This."

Dukunoo features all things jerked. "I just could not be more



Chef Marcus Samuelsson tastes Fever Grass shrimp with the Chef as well as owners of Dukunoo, a restaurant lounge in the heart of Wynwood, Miami, FL.

proud. To be able to highlight them and spotlight them is something that I love to do,"

Samuelsson said.

"Marcus Samuelsson being here was an amazing, just you know an amazing experience, not only, but just a good tell of the fact that we were doing something right," said co-owner Shrusan Gray.

Dukunoo is located at 316 NW 24th St, Miami, FL 33127 or a three-minute walk from the Wynwood Walls.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com







Most of us try to attract other people by the friends we keep and the way we carry ourselves. If you are going to a party or a formal function, don't you dress well? We all want to promote a favorable impression of ourselves to other people we meet and talk to.

If we agree on that, then think of this. Why should it be any different for your business? If you want to project a favorable image of your company, in order to win customers, you should keep your company with good friends and...dress your company well in...



For information, please call 305-238-2868, or fax 305-252-7843



Peter A. Webley

"Belize Da Speak: An Oral History Of Independence" Turns 40

Forty years ago, Houston-based archaeologist and anthropologist, Ray Scippa, coined an idea for a book that would highlight Belize's transition from colonialism to becoming a sovereign nation.

That idea would eventually lead to over 50 interviews and the verbatims from 23 of them would become "Belize Da Speak: An Oral History of Independence."

Scippa, who has earned degrees in creative writing and anthropology from San Francisco State University, as well as lived and worked in Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and Mexico, lived in Belize at a pivotal moment in the country's history.

His interviews included a wide cross-section of Belizeans, including an English teacher, Colville Young, who would later become the country's Governor General. The wide range of interviewees gives a comprehensive look at the social and cultural climate at the time and contains many themes with are still relevant to Belizean society, even in 2021. Themes such concerns of Guatemalan

aggression and the territorial claim, cane farmers coping with sugar price drops, and the search for a national identity that respects the many races and cultures in Belize.

The book also offers a unique snapshot of how Belize has

evolved over the years, with some interviews referencing the emergence of television, something that previously had not been in Belize, the effect it was having on the youth, and the concerns that parents were having about those effects.

It was officially published in 2012, with a copy and original photos from the author being donated to the National Library in Belmopan in 2016.

The book is available in both paperback and digital format for Kindle at Amazon.com as the Central American CARICOM country marks its 40th year since independence from Britain on September 21, 1981.

~ Rewritten from Breakingbelizenews.com



India Honor For Three Trinidadian Poets







L-R: Trinidadian poets Arjune Teeluck, Sarah Ramphal, and Narendra Rajkumar were presented with India's Independence Day Literary Honour for 2021. (*Trinidad Guardian images*)

Three Trinidadian poets were recently honored as part of India's 75th Independence Day observances.

Trinidadian poets Arjune Teeluck, Sarah Ramphal, and Narendra Rajkumar were presented with India's Independence Day Literary Honour for 2021 by Motivational Strips, the world's most active writers' forum and Gujarat Sahitya Academy, the literary body under the Government of India.

Motivational Strips founder, Shiju H. Pallithazheth, says the three were honored for the "poetic precision and powerful messages" in their poetry.

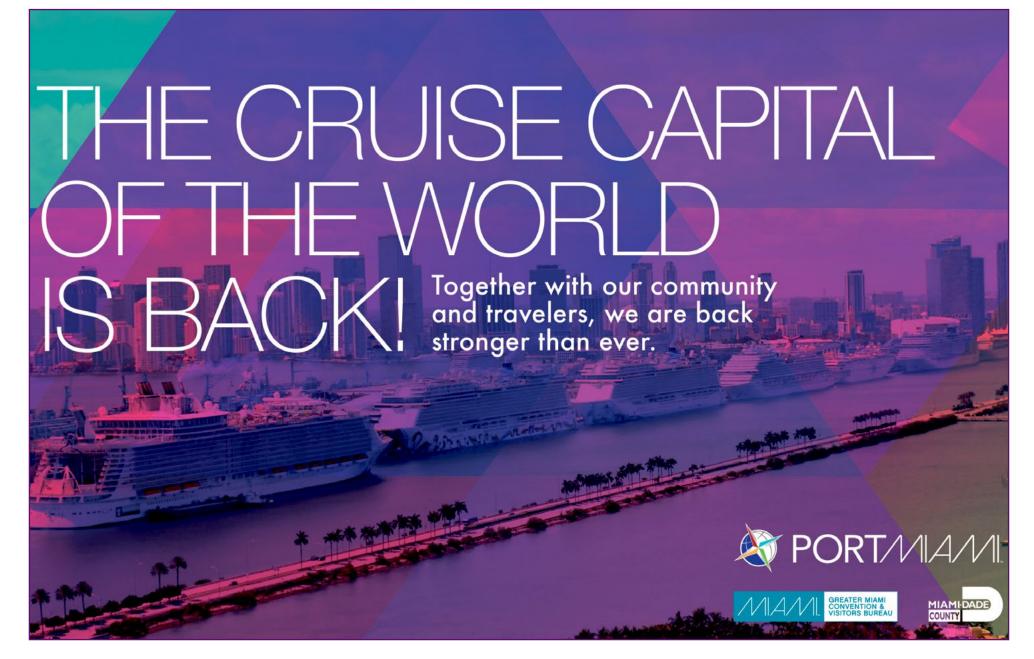
"This year, some 440 poets from 82 countries made the list of recipients of this coveted award," he noted in an official release. "The poets from Trinidad have shown exceptional poetic brilliance, adding to the excellent literary contributions they have made to world literature... The decision to give the award was taken after exhaustive evaluations of their literary works."

Teeluck is the author of a collection of poems titled "Mindself." He was born 1949 in the rural village of Lengua in Trinidad and Tobago and is also the author of books, plays, articles, poetry and documentaries on science, politics, philosophy and comparative religion.

Ramphal is the author of "Fragrance of the Rose" among other poems while Rajkumar is the author of "THE HERITAGE: Anthology of Poems" and "A Spark Of Hope" among others.

~ Rewritten from the Trinidad Guardian





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CITY OF MIRAMAR NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY CARES Act Emergency Assistance- CDBG CV-3

The City of Miramar announces the availability of approximately \$583,460 for CARES Act Emergency Rental Assistance/Utilities (water and electricity) and Mortgage Assistance/Utilities (water, electricity, HOA, and insurance). Temporary emergency payment of renters' late installment(s) and late fee(s) are included. These funds will be used by the City of Miramar for extremely low to moderate income eligible households impacted by COVID-19. <u>Applications will be processed on a first come, first served, first qualified basis for the CARES Act Emergency Assistance Program and grants will be awarded until funds are exhausted.</u>

Applications will be available to download on September 15, 2021 on the websites below:

Community Revitalization Affiliates, Inc. Website: https://www.crasouthfl.com

City of Miramar. Website: https://www.miramarfl.gov

Community Revitalization Affiliates, Inc. will receive applications beginning September 22, 2021 until September 30, 2021

Completed application along with all required documentation MUST BE SUBMITTED IN

PERSON at Community Revitalization Affiliates, Inc. 3350 SW 148th Avenue, Suite 110 Miramar, FL 33027 Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday- Friday

<u>Please note that incomplete applications will be rejected.</u>
Seniors with limited or no access to a computer/technology should contact
City of Miramar's Community Services Department at (954) 889-2719

If you have previously received assistance or applied for assistance from the City of Miramar, you may qualify for the CARES Act Emergency Assistance Program.

If you are disabled and need further assistance, please call (954) 939-3271

Household Size	Extremely Low Income 30% AMI and Lower	Low Income 31% to 50% AMI	Moderate Income 51% to 80% AMI
1	\$18,500	\$30,800	\$49,300
2	\$21,150	\$35,200	\$56,350
3	\$23,800	\$39,600	\$63,400
4	\$26,500	\$44,000	\$70,400
5	\$31,040	\$47,550	\$76,050
6	\$35,580	\$51,050	\$81,700
7	\$40,120	\$54,600	\$87,300
8	\$44,880	\$58,100	\$92,950

Effective April 1, 2021, the Median Family Income for Ft. Lauderdale HMFA (Broward) is \$73,400.

Information on the program may be obtained by visiting www.crasouthfl.com or by calling (954) 939-3271



City of Miramar Denise A. Gibbs, CMC City Clerk



MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT Homicide Bureau

9105 NW 25 STREET Doral, FL 33172 (305) 471-2400

http://www.miamidade.gov/police/contacts-homicide.asp



HIT & RUN FATALITY



VICTIM/PEDESTRIAN

Rupert Webley B/M, 68 years old

On **Sunday, May 2, 2021, at approximately 9:25 p.m.,** the above-pictured victim/pedestrian began crossing at **SW 184 Street and SW 112 Avenue, Miami, Florida,** when the subject vehicle, a Hyundai silver in color, struck and killed him. The driver of the subject vehicle fled the scene without rendering aid and/or reporting the crash.

SUBJECT VEHICLE DESCRIPTION: HYUNDAI SILVER IN COLOR. NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

Anyone with information on the above **HIT & RUN FATALITY**, the whereabouts of the subject vehicle and/or its driver is requested to contact Miami-Dade Police Department Traffic Homicide Detective J. Childers at (305) 471-2425. If you wish to remain anonymous, then contact Miami-Dade County Crime Stoppers at the following:

- (305) 471-TIPS (8477) or 1 (866) 471-8477
- Visit www.CrimeStoppers305.com and select "Submit a Tip"
- Visit <u>www.facebook.com/crimestoppers305</u> "Contact Us Visit the App Store – Get P3 and sign into Miami for Tips

If the tip leads to the arrest of the subject(s), the tipster may be eligible for a reward **UP TO**THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00. All calls are kept strictly anonymous.

ISSUE DATE: 5/11/2021 RN SUPERVISOR: Sgt. Francisco Armendariz MDPD C/N PD210502138114

If this flyer aids in your investigation in any way, please advise Deborah Simons, I.A., of the South Florida Homicide Clearinghouse at 305-471-2400.

This Caribbean Country Now Has The Most Deaths From COVID-19

Cuba now accounts for the most deaths from the dreaded COVID-19 virus in the Caribbean, News Americas has found.

With over 4,600 deaths, Cuba is now ranked as the top 50 country in the world with the most cases and deaths as well as in the Caribbean.

The country has now surpassed half million

Statewide medical associations have

released a public

encouraging more

Floridians to get

vaccinated.

service announcement

The PSA was from

The Florida Hospital

Association represents over 200

hospital systems statewide. In the

60-second PSA, nurse Juana Diaz

explains: "We're still in the same

circumstances that we were when

you're watching people just pass

away. You know, and just -- it's

so devastating to watch unfold."

FHA President Mary

there wasn't a vaccine. Where

both the Florida medical

and hospital associations say the motivation is

in the numbers due to

the rising number of

unvaccinated.



Cuba is pushing more vaccinations as it struggles with the most COVID-19 deaths and cases in the Caribbean.

Florida Medical Associations Urge All To Get Vaccinated

infections, nearing 593,000. Of that number, there are nearly 50,000 active cases. Cuba is struggling to get oxygen to aid the sick. The government has turned to the military to provide oxygen amid a surge of the coronavirus, even as doctors rush to administer locally developed vaccines to the population.

The government has

announced that the Caribbean island's main oxygen plant had broken down in the midst of a Delta variant-driven coronavirus surge that has resulted in record numbers of cases and deaths, swamping some provincial health systems. Cuba has now surpassed the

has some 349,000 cases, with some 4,000 deaths and just over 4,700 active cases.

Dominican Republic for most

cases and deaths. The DR now

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



Look Out For Fake COVID-19 Vaccines



Fake COVID-19 Vaccines

The International Police (INTERPOL) has warned all of its 194 member countries, including those in the Caribbean, to be on the lookout for organized crime groups attempting to defraud governments with fake offers to sell coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines.

In its global alert, INTERPOL said that at least 60 cases in 40 countries around the world have been reported where individuals in health ministries and hospitals have received offers for COVID-19 vaccines approved for distribution in their

It said usually claiming to represent a vaccine manufacturer or a government agency facilitating the distribution of vaccines, the scammers are targeting both professional and personal email accounts of potential buyers, as well as making contact via phone.

The INTERPOL alert, issued to all 194 member countries, is based on information provided by vaccine manufacturers and highlights the types of modus operandi used in the attempted scams, including the use of fake social media accounts and websites.

INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock said the alert underlined the importance of public/private sector cooperation.

"As we see with cybercrime, usually it is the private sector which has the most information about attacks and trends, which is exactly what has happened with these attempted vaccine scams," he said. "Even when a fraud fails, it is important that it is reported to

the police so that potential links can be identified and also, as in the case of the alert INTERPOL has issued, to warn law enforcement about these threats. With the ongoing pandemic and efforts of countries to safely and

quickly vaccinate their citizens,

it is vital that the roll-out process

is protected from manufacture to

delivery." The alert, issued under the umbrella of the INTERPOL Global Financial Crime Task Force (IGFCTF), is the most recent in a series of warnings issued in relation to COVIDrelated crime threats.

INTERPOL said criminals have exploited every stage of the pandemic from creating websites and social media accounts claiming to sell protective equipment and medical supplies to the manufacture and distribution of fake vaccines as well as ransomware attacks on critical infrastructure.

Launched in 2020, the IGFCTF is aimed at enhancing international cooperation and innovation between the public and private sector with a focus on cyber-enabled fraud, money laundering schemes and COVID-related crimes.

This latest alert follows the joint INTERPOL and the United States' Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) warning to the public against purchasing alleged COVID-19 vaccines and treatments online earlier this

INTERPOL has since published guidelines on how people can protect both their personal and online security.

~ Edited from CMC



COVID-19.

"That's why we felt so strongly doing these public service announcements to really convey the severity of this virus as it is attacking now a much younger age group, putting them in the hospital, in intensive care," Mayhew said.

According to the FHA, hospitals are seeing thousands of COVID-patients again, with 90% of those unvaccinated. Couple that with staffing shortages Mayhew said it's putting a strain on hospital workers.

Heroes are now sharing their stories from the front lines to urge Floridians to get results and get vaccinated.

"We had someone in her 30s, a young mommy. She left her husband and three little kids, ages four, two, eight. They're saying, 'Mommy, come home. Mommy, I miss you.' She's not saying anything because she's intubated," said Diaz.

The Florida Hospital Association says going forward they will be looking at more ways to help health care workers as they continue to fight the surge of COVID-cases and hospitalizations.

~ Edited from ClickOrlando.





City of North Lauderdale is offering

COVID-19 Vaccine Pop-Up

Shots Administered by

These sites do not require an appointment and are open to all interested in the 2-Shot PFIZER VACCINE.

Good for anyone ages 12 and Up -Under 18 Require a Parent or **Guardian Present**







TRAVEL

The Top Four Beach Destinations For Capitalist Nomads Are All In The Caribbean



The Cayman Islands topped the global Nomad Beach Index List.

This year's Nomad Beach Index is out and remarkably, the Top 4 out of a list of 10 recommended beach destinations globally for capitalist nomads and entrepreneurs are all in the Caribbean.

Nomad Capitalist, a boutique tax and immigration consultancy built for all modern entrepreneurs and founded by Andrew Henderson in 2012, releases The Nomad Beach Index that aggregates data from over thirty unique sources to create the perfect ranking system. It is based on a total point system of 50 and ranks by the priorities that each Nomad Capitalist should consider essential: beauty, services, taxes, immigration and safety.

Here are the Top 4 Beach Destinations globally For Nomads you should know:

1: The Cayman Islands
The Cayman Islands topped

the global list as it landed in the number one with 46 out of 50 points. It scored high for its "lush greeneries and blue waters and its "favorable tax policies." There is no income tax, no property tax, no company tax, and no capital gains tax.

2: Antigua and Barbuda
Antigua and Barbuda ranked at number two for its dual islands, scoring 43 out of 50 points for its historical culture, its world-class beaches and the cheapest citizenship by investment program for families at US \$125,000.

3: The Bahamas

The Bahamas ranked in at number 3 with a total of 42 points for its many islands – 700 in total as well as the country's straightforward immigration process that allows a nomad to be a resident by purchasing an annual resident permit from the government for as low as \$1,000.

The Bahamas also ranked high for having no income tax, no corporate tax, no capital gains tax, no sales tax, no withholding tax, no gift or inheritance tax, and no other probate fee, making the island nation a well-established tax haven for entrepreneurs and investors alike.

4: St. Kitts And Nevis

St. Kitts and Nevis ranked fourth globally with 42 points as well, scoring high for being a dual island nation; its citizenship program and its lush green sceneries, wildlife, and crystal clear waters.

A citizen can pay zero tax there by making a non-refundable donation to the government for \$150,000 or invest about \$200,000 to \$400,000 in one of the country's approved real estate projects.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



CAL Flights Return To St. Lucia

St. Lucia has welcomed the return of the Trinidad-based Caribbean Airlines (CAL) service to the island.

"We are delighted to see the return of the service to the destination with Caribbean Airlines and look forward to welcoming our returning nationals and visitors from Trinidad and Tobago," Tourism Minister Dr. Ernest Hilaire said as CAL's non-stop service from Piarco International Airport marked the first schedule flight since in mid-202 when Trinidad and Tobago closed its borders as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

CAL said that as it continues the phased introduction of its commercial schedule, operations to St. Lucia will take place weekly. On Mondays the service will depart Trinidad at 2:00 pm (local time) for the one hour five-minute flight, returning the same day.

"The Caribbean market is important to us and is one of our largest source markets for visitors to Saint Lucia. Having you back will certainly add a lot of flavor in many ways. I am sure that our smaller

properties will be delighted, and we appreciate the ease of transportation between our islands," Hilaire added.

In 2019, the Caribbean was recognized as St. Lucia's second largest market for stay-over arrivals. The 83,466 Caribbean arrivals recorded in 2019 was 7.2 per cent higher than arrivals recorded in 2018.

Trinidad and Tobago accounted for 18,971 visitors, a year-on-year increase of 10.56 per cent and CAL's chief executive officer, Garvin Medera, said the airline is delighted to restart weekly service to St Lucia, "which is one of our beloved markets.

St. Lucia is the fifth Caribbean destination added to the airline's schedule for direct service into and out of Trinidad.

The SLTA is working with CAL through a very targeted digital campaign to promote the flight, and onisland offerings including accommodation, and the most compelling experiences.

~ Rewritten from CMC





Guyana And Suriname Looking To Brazil Tourism

The CARICOM South American nations of Guyana and Suriname have expressed a desire to engage northern Brazil on joint tourism initiatives.

"Tourism has been identified as a key area for both countries. So, we have also agreed that the two ministers and entities will meet to determine a strategy that would jointly promote Guyana and Suriname, especially in the context of the Guiana Shield and the potential of including Northern Brazil in that package," Guyana's President Irfaan Ali said recently

The Guiana Shield is world renowned for being a region of rich biodiversity. It underlies Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, and portions of Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia.

Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi, in ending a four-day official visit to



The Guiana Shield is world renowned for being a region of rich biodiversity.

Guyana on August 20th, said the two nations intend to promote their countries as a "twin tourism product."

The countries have said they regard the construction of the Corentyne Bridge between their two borders as infrastructure

that will grow the tourism sector, since it will make the inter-country movement of people, goods and services more seamless.

~ Rewritten from CMC



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Caribbean Women Sprinters Dominate In Lausanne

While the spotlight was on Jamaica's top trio of female sprinters in Lausanne on Thursday, August 26, 2021, for the Athletissima Wanda Diamond League meet, the day also belonged to not just the Jamaicans but to at least two other Caribbean female athletes as well, who brought their A-game.

With all eyes on the 100-m, Jamaican Olympians Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, Elaine Thompson-Herah and Shericka Jackson did not disappoint, finishing 1-2-3 again as they did at the Summer Games in Tokyo and in Eugene on August 14th.

However, this time, places were reversed as the 34-yearold Fraser, known as the pocket rocket, bested her compatriot Thompson-Herah to claim the number one spot in the Stade Olympique de la Pontaise in a time of 10.60 (1.7m/s) clocking.

On a night when the wind whipped off Lake Geneva to trouble many a newly crowned Olympic champion, Fraser-Pryce got off to her customary bullet start, then ran like the wind to render Thompson-Herah's charge from halfway worthy of only the runner-up spot with 10.64.

She now holds the third spot on the world all-time list - behind the 10.49 Florence



Jamaica's 'Pocket Rocket,' Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce celebrates her win in the 100-m in Lausanne. (Getty Image)

Griffith-Joyner recorded at the 1988 US Olympic trials in Indianapolis and the scorching 10.54 that Thompson-Herah ran at the Diamond League meeting in Eugene last Saturday, August

It was a stunning turnaround, with the spotlight on Thompson-Herah and the prospect of her threatening Griffith-Joyner's 33-year-old global mark on the back of her Eugene performance and her 10.61 Olympic record win in Tokyo.

Having finished a distant second in both races, Fraser-Pryce – the four-time world and two-time Olympic 100m champion – now finds herself

Jamaican rivals look to update

firmly in the frame as the

the record books. "Believe it or not, I still have not run my best race," the veteran sprint queen maintained afterwards. "I know there is more to give because I still need to work further on improving my technique. There will be

more from me this season, and certainly my goal is to break into the 10.5 range."

It was Fraser-Pryce's 21st sub-10.8 clocking and her first win against her Jamaican teammate since the Jamaican Olympic trials in late June, when she emerged victorious from both the 100m and 200m.

Thompson-Herah, who finished second at 10.64, confessed: "My body is feeling tired after a long season and especially after having done four personal best times in a month. That's amazing, for sure. I have no plans to break the world record and I never thought of getting so close. I'm simply going to continue working hard, finish the season strong and come back even stronger next season."

As in Tokyo, and Eugene, Jackson completed a Jamaican 1-2-3, taking the third spot in a time of 10.92.

400-M

Also dominating were women from the DR and Barbados. In the women's 400m, The Dominican Republic's Marileidy Paulino took the win in a time of 50.40 while Barbados' Sada Williams was second in a time of 50.77.

Triple Jump

In the women's Triple Jump, Shanieka Ricketts was second with a mark of 15.02.

OTHER EVENTS

But it was not just the women who ended with a place in the top 3. In the men's 200-m, Steven Gardiner of the Bahamas finished third in 20.11 and Grenada's Anderson Peters also finished third in the men's javelin throw with a mark of 84.32.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



Reggae Boyz Is Lone Caribbean Team Left In **CONCACAF Qualifiers**

Jamaica's Reggae Boyz is the only Caribbean Football Union side left in the final round of the qualifiers for the FIFA 2022 World Cup.

They face a difficult trip to the Estadio Azteca in Mexico City on Sept. 2nd for their opening match in the final round of the CON-CACAF qualifiers for the FIFA 2022 World

The Boyz join the likes of Canada, Honduras, El Salvador, United States, Costa Rica and Panama.

They will clash with Mexico on September 2nd and three days play Panama at home in Kingston.

Three days after that match, the Jamaican soccer side will



Jamaica's Reggae Boyz face Mexico on Sept. 2nd.

travel to San Jose to battle Costa

In another seven-day period during the second international window in October, Jamaica

will fly to Austin, Texas to take on United States on October 7th before hosting Canadian Jamaica on October 10th.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)





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Naomi Osaka Raises Nearly 50K For Haiti

"I'm kind of sad now that I couldn't have gone further, but I think the main thing was to raise awareness and I feel like I did that pretty well. Overall, I'm just glad that we were able to contribute something," Osaka said after walking away with \$24,200 in prize money for her third-round appearance. Doubled with a matched

donation from the tournament's title sponsor, the Western & Southern Financial Group, she raised \$48,400.

Osaka's loss to Teichmann marks her second-straight third round loss. She was eliminated by Marketa Vondrousova in the third round at the Tokyo Olympics last month.

"I also thought that my performance in Tokyo was

lingering in my mind a bit because I felt like I was a little too aggressive there," she said Thursday, via the Cincinnati Enquirer. "I feel like I learned a lot from this match today and I thought that if there's anything to take away from this, I tried my best throughout the entire match."

More than 2,100 people have died in the quake and more

than 12,000 people have been injured so far. The earthquake - which came about a month after former president Jovenel Moise was assassinated - struck about five miles from the town of Petit Trou de Nippes in the southwestern part of Haiti.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com





Naomi Osaka sports a Haitian flag mask after the match in tribute to her father's homeland. (Twitter image/ Naomi Osaka)

Haitian-roots tennis star, Naomi Osaka's run at the Western & Southern Open was cut short but she still managed to raise some US \$50,000 for her father's homeland.

Osaka, born in Japan to a Haitian father and a Japanese mother, had pledged ahead of the tournament to donate any winnings to relief efforts in Haiti following the August 14, 2021, earthquake. But she lost on August 19th to Jil Teichmann 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, ending her hope to

Reggae Boyz Is Lone Caribbean Team Left In CONCACAF Qualifiers

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The Reggae Boyz will close out that window with a trip to San Pedro Sula where they clash with Honduras at the Estadio Olímpico Metropolitano three days later.

Jamaica will take on El Salvador away and then host United States in the return leg in November, on dates still to be determined. Final round matches continue in January and March windows of next year.

The fourth-placed team will progress to a FIFA Intercontinental playoff, carded for June next year.

Jamaica reached the quarterfinals of last month's CONCACAF Gold Cup before being knocked out by eventual champions United States in the quarterfinals.

Jamaica is hoping to be one of the top three teams which will qualify directly for the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, scheduled for November 21 to December 18, 2022.

~ NewsAmericasNow.com



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