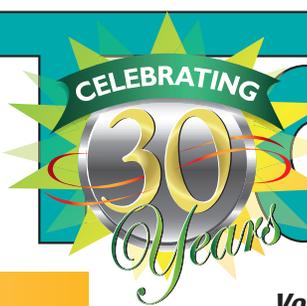


Caribbean Today

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It wasn't always obvious Jamaican-born Romaine Waite would be an actor. Sure, as a child he had an outgoing personality that sometimes got him in trouble. Now today, he can be seen in television, stage and movie productions, page 13.



Kids and adults will have plenty to choose from at this month's Miami Book Fair. "ReadCaribbean", a series including readings, panel discussions and storytelling for children which highlight the vibrant, diverse literary culture of the region, will be among the highlights, page 22.

ON THE BRINK

~ A fresh generation of Caribbean immigrants in the United States is on the verge of possibly witnessing the impeachment of an American president, a monumental political process done only three times before in U.S. history, page 3.



CHAMPIONSHIP CALIBER



~ Caribbean athletes marched into one of the world's wealthiest nations and took a rich haul of medals from the World Championships in Athletics. Among them were winners, including from left, Steven Gardiner, Yaime Pérez, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce and Anderson Peters. Stories from the championships in Qatar are on pages 7, 8, 9, 19 and 20.

INSIDE

News	2	Food	12	Sports.....	19
Feature.....	7	Arts/Entertainment	13	Classifieds	21
Viewpoint	9	Health	15	Books.....	22
FYI/Local	11	Fall Travel	17		



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U.S. revokes visas for Jamaican parliamentarians, cops

The United States has revoked the visas of two Jamaican members of Parliament, according to media reports coming out of the Caribbean island.

The **Jamaica Observer** reported late last month that U.S. visitors' visas for Daryl Vaz, a member of the ruling Jamaica Labor Party, and Phillip Paulwell, a vice president in the Opposition People's National Party, have been revoked.

Up to press time the U.S. had not given a reason for revoking visas.

However, in addition to the parliamentarians, the **Observer** reported that the U.S. visas for "at least six" police officers had also been revoked. The newspaper quoted sources as saying that "the U.S. moved against them because of allegations that members of the Mobile Reserve were involved in extrajudicial killings before it was disbanded."

The U.S. Embassy in Jamaica's capital Kingston last month issued letters to those involved, informing them their visas had been revoked. The



Vaz

come to light that you may be ineligible for a visa," the **Observer** quoted Vaz, minister without portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, as saying. "If you would like to travel to the United States, you must re-apply."

Vaz reportedly told the **Observer** that he had informed Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness that his visa had been revoked "and has since initiated, through the formal procedures and protocols, the process of seeking clarification to determine his eligibility to be issued a United States visa."

Vaz, who in 2008 renounced his U.S. citizenship, claimed "there is no reason for his U.S. visa to be revoked."

Paulwell told the **Observer** he didn't know why his visa would be revoked.

The U.S. Embassy has revoked visas of prominent members of Jamaican society in recent years. In 2016, three attorneys lost their permits to enter the U.S.



Paulwell

Observer reported that Vaz confirmed receiving a letter from the embassy, which he said did not include a reason for revoking his visa.

"Subsequent to the visa issuance, information has

Dominica marks 41st Independence

ROSEAU, Dominica – Dominica celebrated its 41st anniversary of political Independence from Britain on Nov. 3 with Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit calling on compatriots to engage in the continued growth of the nation.

"This nation is ours," said Skerrit in his message. "We are building it for our children, for their children and for the generation after them. We are building the nation of Dominica to carve out our place in history and make our mark on the world.

"As we commence the journey to 42, it is my hope and prayer that we will so vigorously engage in this building effort, that history will record that here is a nation of strong, proud,

resilient people who withstood the worst; who feared only God; whose strength of character and excellence of conduct so made us stand out, that the name of Dominica comes to be revered and God himself looks on with a smile and says, 'here is the nation and the people whom I love and I will bless the land and the people forever.'

Dominica is celebrating this year under the theme "Saluting Resilience and Rejuvenation ... Two Years on". The nation has been recovering from the widespread devastation caused by Category 5 Hurricane Maria in Sept. 2017. Before Maria, Dominica was also impacted by Tropical Storm Matthew in 2016 and Erika in 2015.



... to hold election in 100 days

Dominica's Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit last month promised to hold his country's general election "within 100 days."

Skerrit made the announcement during a public meeting on Oct. 13. He is seeking to have his ruling Dominica Labour Party (DLP) win a fifth consecutive term in office.

Skerrit told supporters that they should be getting ready for the poll that is constitutionally due by Mar. 2020. But political

observers believe the poll would be held later this year.

"I certainly could not have said this two weeks ago that general elections in the Commonwealth of Dominica will be held within the next 100 days," Skerrit said. "So you could do your maths, get your calendars out and check within 100 days for elections in Dominica. The time is drawing nigh."



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Trump nears impeachment, Caribbean nationals may witness history

GORDON WILLIAMS

A fresh generation of Caribbean immigrants in the United States are on the verge of witnessing the impeachment of an American president, a monumental political process done only three times before in U.S. history.

The majority Democratic lawmakers in the U.S. House of Representatives late last month voted to approve a resolution formalizing an impeachment inquiry targeting Donald Trump, which could possibly result in the removal of the president from the office.

The House, which assigned a committee to take depositions from potential witnesses in recent weeks, voted mostly along party lines - 232 (all Democrats and one independent) to 196 (all Republicans plus two Democrats) - to approve a resolution that will ensure open hearings to determine if Trump violated the oath of president while dealing with the nation of Ukraine.

Following the public hearings, the House will have the option to vote on impeaching the president. If it does, the U.S. Senate, with its Republican



Clarke

majority will then hold a trial to decide if the president should be removed from office.

PRAISE

Caribbean American lawmakers immediately praised the House vote to investigate Trump, convinced he has committed acts which meet the impeachment bar of high crimes and misdemeanors.

"Reminder: no one is above the law, including the president of the United States," tweeted Senator Kamala Harris, daughter of a Jamaica father, who is campaigning for the Democratic nomination to possibly face Trump in the Nov. 2020 presidential election.

"I've been a vocal proponent of impeaching Donald

Trump since 2017," U.S. Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, daughter of Jamaican parents, declared in a statement, "and this latest law-breaking incident only validates my beliefs that we must move forward in impeaching Donald J. Trump from the highest office in our country."

The last U.S. president to

be impeached was Bill Clinton. However, he was not removed from office following a 1998-99 trial in the Senate. During the 30 years since that vote, Caribbean nationals in the U.S. have increased steadily. Some three million Caribbean immigrants were in the U.S. in 2000, according to the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), a

Washington, D.C.-based think tank. By 2017, MPI reported, the number had risen to 4.4 million.

Up to press time, most of the top public opinion polls showed a split among U.S. residents, with nearly half (49 percent) of those asked willing to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

Harris's presidential run slows

The campaign of Kamala Harris, the lone Caribbean American still with a chance of winning the Democratic Party's bid to become president of the United States, appears to be sputtering.

Harris, a U.S. senator from California whose father is Jamaican, has witnessed a dramatic fall in recent political polls. After a promising start to the campaign to challenge incumbent President Donald Trump, when she briefly rose to the head of a crowded Democratic field following a nationally televised debate, Harris is currently polling in low single figures in most political surveys.

According to the **NBC News/WSJ Poll** released late last month, Harris had dropped nine points since July.

Campaign funding is also drying up. As a result, Harris cut field staff to "skeleton" in New Hampshire late last month. Reports indicated she plans to close three of four campaign offices in the U.S. state. Campaign workers were also laid off in Maryland as part of the cost-cutting measures.

HOPE

Going into November, Harris is hoping for a strong showing in Iowa, a state which usually offers key insight into who can win the Democratic bid for president. However,



Harris

her remaining staff insisted her campaign is not close to the quitting point.

"Senator Harris and this team set out with one goal - to win the nomination and defeat Donald Trump in 2020," Nate Evans, Harris's New Hampshire spokesman told the media.

Evans explained the trimming of staff is an effort to streamline campaign resources.

"The campaign has made a strategic decision to realign resources to go all-in on Iowa, resulting in office closures and staff realignments and reductions in New Hampshire," he said.

Several Democratic challengers have already dropped out of the campaign for president, the latest being Beto O'Rourke, a former U.S. congressman who called time on his bid late last month.



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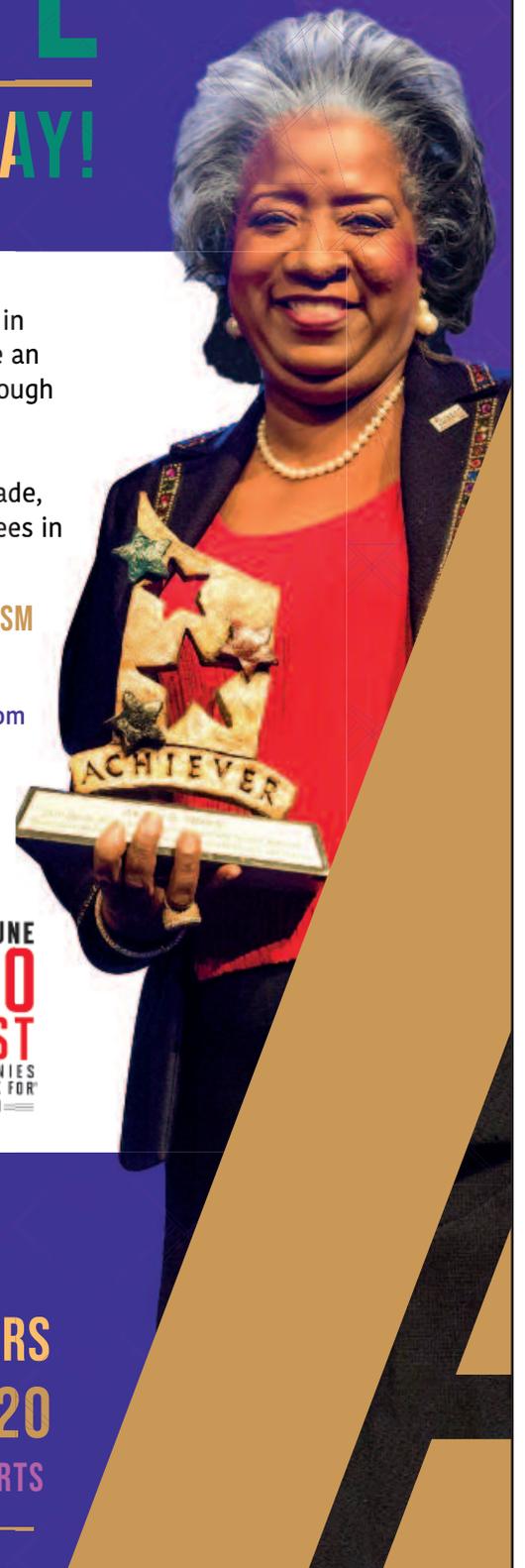
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Guyanese man arrested for child sex crimes in New York

NEW YORK – A Guyanese national, who was twice released with an active detainer following his detention for crimes against children, has again been arrested pending deportation from the United States to his homeland.

Thomas R. Decker, field office director for the Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) in New York, described 43-year-old Grachowe Harrichand as “a repeat offender when it comes to crimes against a child. Yet, he was released back into the community over and over.”

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency said Harrichand, was

previously ordered removed from the country and was twice released from local law enforcement custody with an active detainer “due to New York City’s sanctuary policies.” It said he was first arrested on Mar. 6 on charges of sexual abuse, contact with victims less than 13 and 14 years old, as well as subjecting another person to sex contact without consent among other charges.

On June 3, Harrichand pleaded guilty to acting in a manner to injure a child and was sentenced to six months in custody.

ICE said the detainer was not honored and Harrichand

was released from the custody of the New York City Department of Correction. However, on July 5 he was again arrested on sex related charges, including acting in a manner to injure a child less than 17 years old. ICE said Harrichand was arrested on Oct. 9 in the South Richmond Hill section of Queens, New York.

With a final order of removal in place from 2004, ICE said he had been detained pending deportation to Guyana.

- Edited from CMC.



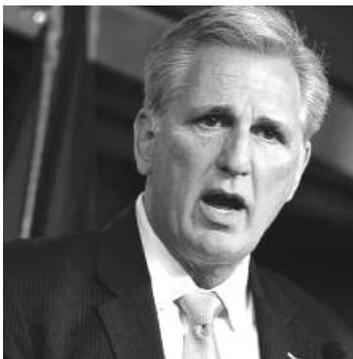
Trump nears impeachment, Caribbean nationals may witness history

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

support the president’s impeachment and removal from office and a similar number opposed.

POWER ABUSE

Among the allegations against Trump is that he abused



McCarthy

the power of his office by deliberately withholding aid to Ukraine authorized by the U.S. Congress unless the European nation investigated a political opponent, in this case former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter.

The Trump administration has accused Hunter Biden of corruption because he accepted a lucrative job with a private company in Ukraine while his father was vice president. Trump and his supporters have offered no evidence to back their corruption allegations,

which were previously debunked by federal investigators, including some who worked in Trump’s administration.

The behind-closed-doors depositions, part of investigations into Trump and his administration, followed a report by a whistleblower, which pointed to Trump’s possible violation of the law and abuse of power during his dealings with Ukraine. Statements have been taken from multiple witnesses, including those who listened in on Trump’s July 25



Pelosi

telephone call with Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky. A bulk of the testimony, including those from career non-political diplomats, appear damning for Trump, which confirmed the U.S. president did offer a quid pro quo, an accusation Trump has repeatedly denied in public.

The House’s resolution makes clear the rules under which the impeachment process will be conducted. It also allows the House to push harder to obtain information previously withheld by the Trump-led White House.

STAKES

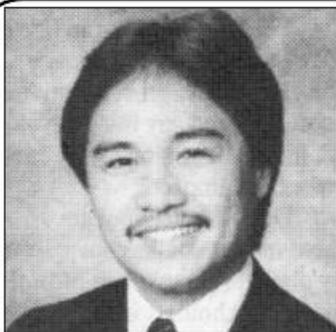
However, several members of Trump’s administration, including at least one Cabinet secretary and his chief of staff, have refused to testify before the House committee. Some even defied House subpoenas. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called the impeachment inquiry a search for the “truth.”

“What is at stake in all of this is nothing less than our democracy,” Pelosi said.

Meanwhile, Republicans claim impeachment process is only about removing Trump from office because, they believe, he will win re-election in the 2020 election.

“This impeachment is not only an attempt to undo the last election, it is an attempt to influence the next one as well,” said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, who claimed the president did nothing impeachable during his call with Zelensky.

Public impeachment hearings could start within weeks.



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HOT SEAT: T&T-born judge facing criminal charges in U.S.

NEW YORK – A Trinidad and Tobago-born judge is facing charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice and obstruction of justice in the United States.

Geoffrey S. Berman, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, last month said the charges against Justice Sylvia Gwendolyn Ash arose from “a scheme to seek to influence and impede an ongoing federal investigation into fraud and corruption at MCU (Municipal Credit Union), a non-profit, multibillion-dollar financial institution.”

Roger Archibald, a Trinidad-born attorney representing Ash, said his client is innocent.

“Under our system of justice, she enjoys the presumption of innocence, and she retains that cloak of innocence and never loses it, unless she’s found guilty by a jury of her peers,” Archibald told the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)** last month.

Ash, 62, a Brooklyn, a New York resident who was born to Grenadian and Vincentian parents, is a presiding judge of the Kings County (Brooklyn) Supreme Court, Commercial Division, and a former chair of the MCU Board of Directors.

ARREST

Berman said Ash was arrested at La Guardia Airport in New York on Oct. 11 after arriving from Miami, Florida. She appeared before a Manhattan federal court judge the same day and was released on \$500,000 personal recognizance bond.

“As alleged, Sylvia Ash, a sitting state court judge, took repeated steps to obstruct a federal investigation into signifi-



Ash

cant financial misconduct at MCU during Ash’s tenure as chair of the board of directors,” he added.

MCU is a multibillion-dollar federally insured credit union.

After the charges against Ash were announced, a court system spokesman told the **New York Times** she was “immediately stripped of her judicial duties pending the outcome of the case and suspended with pay from her US\$210,000-a-year position by the state Court of Appeals”.

Berman said Ash was charged with one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice, which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, and two counts of obstruction of justice, each of which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Berman said Ash has served as a judge in the New York State court system since at least about 2006, first as a Kings County Civil Court judge and, commencing in 2011, as a Kings County Supreme Court justice.

In her 35-year legal career,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

U.S. courts block Trump’s order against ‘green cards’ for Caribbean immigrants

Multiple federal judges in the United States last month issued temporary injunctions blocking a public charge rule issued by the administration of President Donald Trump which opposes issuing permanent residence or “green cards” to Caribbean and other immigrants.

The rule, which was scheduled to go into effect on Oct. 15, would make it more difficult for Caribbean and other immigrants to get green cards if they appear to be needing public assistance, such as financial aid, healthcare, food stamps and housing assistance.

Several legislators and immigration advocates filed legal challenges to Trump’s “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds” rule. However, judges in New York, California and Washington on Oct. 11 issued the temporary injunctions against the public charge rule.

‘EXCLUSION’

“The rule is simply a new agency policy of exclusion in search of a justification,” wrote Justice George B. Daniels, of the Southern District of New

York, stating that the plaintiffs – five organizations that work to aid Caribbean and other immigrants, as well as New York State, New York City, Connecticut and Vermont – are highly likely to be triumphant in their claims against the Trump administration.

“It is repugnant to the American Dream of the opportunity for prosperity and success through hard work and upward mobility,” added Daniels about the public charge rule. “Immigrants have always come to this country seeking a better life for themselves and their posterity. With or without help, most succeed.”

VIOLATION

District Justice Phyllis Hamilton of U.S. District Court in California ruled that the Trump administration “acted arbitrarily and capriciously during the legally-required process



The president’s plan received the thumbs down from a judge.

to implement the changes they propose,” stating that it was in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.

“It made no attempt, whatsoever, to investigate the type or magnitude of harm that would flow from the reality which it admittedly recognized would result – fewer people would be vaccinated,” she wrote.

U.S. District Justice Rosanna Malouf Peterson in Washington ruled that the U.S. Department of Homeland

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

SVG marks 40th Independence

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent – St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) late last month celebrated its 40th anniversary of political Independence from Great Britain.

The Independence celebrations were held under the theme “With strength, honor and dignity, we stand resolute at forty and beyond”.

Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, secretary-general of the Caribbean community (CARICOM), in a congratulatory message to SVG Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves, said the people can look back with pride and satisfaction at 40 years as an Independent nation and of being a haven of peace, progress and stability.

“This fact no doubt was

instrumental in the recent election of St. Vincent and the Grenadines as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council,” the secretary-general said.

“That the nation is the smallest ever to have been granted that responsibility, is another achievement of which the country and the community can be proud.”

LaRocque also applauded SVG as a strong and dedicated advocate of regional integration, noting that the Caribbean community has benefited from its steadfast contribution to furthering that process, in particular through its responsibility for transportation in the CARICOM quasi-cabinet.



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Troubled Haiti seeks humanitarian aid from U.S.

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti – Haiti President Jovenel Moise has asked the United States to provide humanitarian aid to his country, even as he insisted on the formation of a government of national unity to deal with the present socio-economic and political situation on the island.

Appearing on a radio and television program on Oct. 28, Moise, who has been under

pressure from Opposition parties to step down amid allegations of corruption, gave no details of the aid request made to Washington.

On Oct. 27, the U.S., in a statement, declared that “the apparent lack of urgency to resolve the extended political stalemate is increasingly worrisome, as is the growing negative impact on public security, the economy, and the delivery

of humanitarian assistance, including food aid.”

At least 20 people have been killed and several others wounded since Opposition parties have been staging street demonstrations in support of their calls for Moise, who came to power in 2017, to resign.

- Edited from CMC.



Jamaican escapes immigration officers by hiding in courthouse

A 23-year-old Jamaican narrowly escaped being taken into custody and possibly deported by United States immigration officers by hiding in a lawyer's Connecticut office.

Domar Shearer appeared in a Derby Superior Court late last month to face two cases of misdemeanor when he got word federal immigration agents were looking for him on the compound because he had allegedly overstayed the time granted him in the U.S. and

was therefore in the country illegally.

According to the Associated Press news agency, Shearer managed to elude the agents by hiding in the public defender's office for more than seven hours.

The agents reportedly left the compound after the court closed at 5 p.m. Minutes later, Shearer reportedly left the courthouse with his wife.



HOT SEAT: T&T-born judge facing criminal charges in U.S.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Ash accomplished many firsts. On graduation from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C. in 1984, she was hired as the first African American judicial law clerk in New Jersey Superior Court, Chauncey Division, in Atlantic City.

She is also the first Caribbean American to be elected a Civil Court judge in a county-wide race in Kings County, Brooklyn, New York and the first Caribbean American to be appointed to the New York State Committee on Judicial Conduct. Ash was

the first African American to be appointed as a presiding judge of the Commercial Litigation Division in Kings County Supreme Court.

She received the Brooklyn Bar Association Distinguished Jurist Award; the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award; the Carib News 2019 50 Most Powerful Caribbean; and the Brooklyn-based Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) Distinguished Jurist Award.

- Edited from CMC.



U.S. courts block Trump's order against 'green cards' for Caribbean immigrants

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Security (DHS) had failed to cite any statute, legislative history or other resource that “supports the interpretation that Congress has delegated to DHS the authority to expand the definition of who is inadmissible as a public charge or to define what benefits undermine, rather than to promote, the stated goal of achieving self-sufficiency.”

Lawmakers celebrated the courts' decision.

“It's a great day for our democracy,” U.S. Congressman Yvette Clarke, daughter of Jamaican immigrants, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC). “This is a major win for immigrants.”

Clarke, who represents the predominantly Caribbean 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York, blasted Trump's “attempted xenophobic policy” to deny immigrants U.S. residence.

“Hate and bigotry will not be tolerated in America,” she said.

Clarke added that the hardship on Caribbean and other families would have been “tremendous,” if the rule was allowed to become effective.

“People would not be able to feed their children, get proper health care, and it would put

all of us at risk,” she explained.

In response, the White House expressed disappointment, noting in a statement that the courts' rulings “prevent our nation's immigration officers from ensuring that immigrants seeking entry to the United States will be self-sufficient and instead allow non-citizens to continue taking advantage of our generous but limited public resources reserved for vulnerable Americans.

“These injunctions are the latest inexplicable example of the administration being ordered to comply with the flawed or lawless guidance of a previous administration instead of the actual laws passed by Congress.”

Clarke told CMC that “the public charge rule means law-abiding immigrants will be put in an impossible position, having to forfeit health care, nutrition and housing programs in order to get a green card or receive other lawful status.

“Every single one of us has needed help from somebody else at some point in our lives, and this administration has lost sight of this fact with this compassionless public charge rule publication,” she said.

- Edited from CMC.



HONOR GALA



- Photograph by Derrick Scott

Jamaica Prime Minister Andrew Holness, center, is flanked by recipients of the American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ) 2019 International Humanitarian Award, Usain Bolt, second left, and Glenford Christian, second right, for the outstanding impact they've had on philanthropy. Also present are AFJ President Wendy Hart, left, and AFJ Executive Director Caron Chung. The presentation was made at AFJ's annual Hummingbird Gala in New York.

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Caribbean Today

HAIL QUEEN: Jamaica's Fraser-Pryce captures hearts, minds, medals at World Champs

GORDON WILLIAMS

DOHA, Qatar - Americans broke world records. A Qatari gifted the host nation its only gold.

Yet among the most captivating stories of the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA) here last month were those with a distinct Caribbean flavor.

Steven Gardiner offered hope to his beloved, but hurricane-ravaged Bahamas by winning the men's 400 meters. Jamaica's Tajay Gayle shocked the world and took gold in the men's long jump. Grenada's Anderson Peters triumphed in the men's javelin. Even a loser, Aruba's Jonathan Busby, became a celebrity after a competitor paused to help him complete his race.

However, it was Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce who emerged possibly most inspiring. It wasn't just the Jamaican's multi-colored hair or flamboyant personality which caught everyone's eye. Fraser-Pryce won the 100 meters in a world leading time, claiming, for the fourth time, the title of world's fastest woman. She was also key in Jamaica's victorious 4x100 meters relay team. Yet it was her message which captured



Fraser-Pryce led women on and off the track.

hearts and minds here and beyond sports. Fraser-Pryce forced the spotlight onto the power of women.

Arguably the best pure female sprinter the world has known, she was already a household name to track and field observers long before arriving here. Multiple Olympic and WCA gold medals made sure of that. But Fraser-Pryce had been absent from the world stage for a while, after becoming pregnant and later delivering her son Zyon in Aug. 2017. Many doubted the "Pocket Rocket" could make a successful comeback, even after she narrowly lost the 100 and 200 meters at the Jamaica national

trials to reigning Olympic champion Elaine Thompson. She brushed the naysayers aside.

"A lot of persons said I should retire, and do it gracefully," Fraser-Pryce said here. "I was like 'O.K., that's what you think'."

VICTORY

The 32-year-old proceeded to score what she called "a win for mothers" by blasting to double victories and noticeably brightened the path for women in sports, underlining that age and motherhood can no longer be seen as impediments to career progress.

"I cannot thank God

enough for how far I've come," Fraser-Pryce said.

She wasn't the first to do it. She wasn't even the last during WCA 2019, after American mother-of-two Nia Ali won the 100 meters hurdles on the final night. But her journey to greatness left the biggest mark. In the process, she's pulling an entire generation along.

"Obviously I want to win, but the resonance of Shelly-Ann's victory means a lot to me as well," explained Great Britain's 23-year-old Dina Asher-Smith, who finished second to Fraser-Pryce in the 100 and 4x100, and won the 200 meters. "So, I know it's also inspiring to show me what I can do throughout my career and wherever I want to take my life."

Asher-Smith, whose parents are Jamaican, wasn't alone.

"I know women can accomplish what men do," added Marie Josée Ta Lou from Ivory Coast, who finished third in the 100. "So, we are women, but we are human. So we can do everything. We do it now. So I don't want because we are girls, because we have to go and give birth we are treated like another

person. We are the same. Don't discriminate with us."

OPEN SECRET

The world's rotten, open secret - that men get the lion's share of everything - is no longer hidden. Serena Williams, arguably the greatest tennis player ever, is the only woman on the list of top 100 money earners in sports for 2019 at number 63, according to Forbes. This summer, women fired back, getting sportswear company Nike to dump its policy of not paying contracted athletes who became pregnant.

Unfortunately, women still feel compelled to say - out loud - they deserve better. This year, WCA provided a perfect platform - the best in track and field, plus a global audience. The women boldly stepped forward. Dalilah Muhammad of the U.S. won the women's 400 meters hurdles in 52.16 seconds, the only individual world record of the championships. The other WR was the U.S. win in the mixed 4x400 meters relay, which includes two women on each team.

POWER

Thirty-something mothers
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Hurricane, WCA spotlight help Bahamian teen grow up fast

DOHA, Qatar - It took two life-altering experiences, squeezed into mere weeks, to convince teenager Terrence Jones he's all grown up now.

On Sept. 1, Hurricane Dorian smashed into The Bahamas, killing dozens of Jones's compatriots and causing millions of dollars in damage. Less than a month later, he found himself on track and field's biggest stage, carrying the hopes of an entire nation. It was a lot for Jones, who turns 17 on Nov. 8. But, he admitted, the events accelerated his maturity and framed a clear picture of his future.

"Yeah, I've definitely grown mentally and I've got a different perspective of the sport," Jones said after competing at the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA), which ended here last month.

"(Before) I was just looking at the sport as something I just do. But now, I look at it more as a blessing, more as a way for me to spread my talent to the world and to share the love of God and the blessings of God."

Despite finishing last in his 200 meters heat at the WCA and then being disqualified, Jones's talent indicates he has the tools to match his objectives. He dominated older ath-



Photograph by Gordon Williams

Jones is on a mission.

letes at this year's CARIFTA Games in the Caribbean and entered the WCA with impressive personal best times of 20.43 seconds in the 200 and 46.29 in the 400.

CHALLENGE

But the challenge of the stopwatch paled in comparison to what he encountered weeks ago. Freeport, Grand Bahama, where Jones makes his home, was one of two areas in The Bahamas hit hardest by the hurricane. No one died in Jones's district of Deadman's Reef, but many homes, including his, were damaged. Remarkably, he slept as the storm raged.

"I didn't really experience anything," Jones explained. "... I don't know why, I thought it

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



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Torrid heat in Qatar blasts Caribbean nationals at World Championships

GORDON WILLIAMS

DOHA, Qatar – Fiercely hot competition was expected at the IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA) here. Just the way Caribbean people like it.

But few attending were ready for the heat which greeted them at 2019's top track and field meet.

"I've never experienced anything like this," said exasperated Sylvia Williams, a Jamaican who attended the WCA to watch her son compete for their homeland. "... Brutal."

Sept. 27 to Oct. 6, when the WCA was staged, is just past summer here. But it's not quite winter. Well before noon on Day 1, for example, the temperature rose to 100 degrees

Fahrenheit. A few hours before the evening start of Day 3, it was 109.

Organizers moved the meet from the normal July/August WCA window to beat the heat. They eliminated morning sessions. Still, Doha's high temperatures and humidity were punishing.

"This is a different kind of heat," said Bahamian David Charlton. "... They've elevated the level of heat here."

UNUSUAL

Athletes admitted it was unusual to sometimes warm up for events in air conditioning. They took other precautions, but few chances.

"We train in the evening," explained Jamaica 800 meters



Baptiste

runner Natoya Goule. "It's hot. I stay indoors. I don't go outside if I don't have to go outside."

Coaches did their best by preparing "extra rehydration fluids ... at the track and even when we're at the hotel," said Jamaica sprinter Sasha Lee Forbes. "And

we have ice baths and stuff going on."

But one Caribbean athlete embraced the heat, refusing to alter her routine.

"When you start trying to change things I think that's

where you go wrong," said Trinidad and Tobago sprinter Kelly-Ann Baptiste. "... I personally don't like to feel cold. So I'm perfectly fine in the heat."

HUMOR

Meanwhile, some turned to humor, even style, to counter the heat. Jamaica sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce ran her 100 meters first round wearing bright yellow hair.

"The hair is a sunshine," Fraser-Pryce said smiling. "... I hear Jamaica is hot. Doha is hot. So I'm bringing added sunshine."

The innovative cooling system inside partially covered Khalifa International Stadium, where nearly all events were contested, made life comfortable. Outside, Caribbean spec-

tators and athletes, who would normally wander about as tourists during the WCA, found Doha a beautiful city but a huge challenge. Daytime skies were often clouded in a gray haze. That may have shielded visitors from the direct onslaught of the sun, which often looked blood red, but not the heat.

"(The heat) is hard," said Williams. "It's not livable."

Yet visitors are expected to return to Qatar for soccer's 2022 senior men's World Cup. That tournament will be held Nov. 21 to Dec. 18, "winter-time," according to locals, when temperatures "cool down" to near 80 degrees.

Fans who plan to come, may want to bring a fan.



Hurricane, WCA spotlight help Bahamian teen grow up fast

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

was better to sleep to keep from worrying over it."

He received a special WCA invitation from the IAAF, track and field's governing body. The Bahamas encountered problems funding the team as money was diverted to more urgent needs. Yet the hurricane didn't really affect Jones's preparation. The WCA was held Sept. 27 to Oct. 6, later in the year than usual, when Jones would normally be in his off-season. He didn't expect to be at his best here.

Still, he never imagined the gravity of the championships until he entered Khalifa International Stadium for his event.

"As soon as I walked out, to go to my start for the race, it immediately just touched me," Jones explained. "I didn't know what to do. I was shaking from my head go down."

He said the jitters vanished "as soon as the gun went off." However, he was left behind by bigger, faster men.

ADVICE

Jones hopes that doesn't

happen again. He's caught the eye of senior Bahamian athletes and sought their advice on how to cope with the global spotlight.

"I know he came to the (WCA) to get his feet wet (at the senior level)," said reigning Olympic 400 meters champion Shaunae Miller-Uibo. "He's a really talented kid and I think he has a really bright future. So, my advice to him is to just stay with it, stay focused and just keep on dreaming big."

For now, he must face reality. Jones helped with hurricane cleanup at Tabernacle Baptist

Christian Academy, the high school he attends, before he left for the WCA.

"We made sure that we get back to school as soon as possible," he said.

After the WCA, Jones plans to take a break from track for a few weeks, satisfied with 2019. Then he'll resume training for the next season. Looming are the 2020 Olympic Games, where Jones may get another shot to lift his compatriots in the hurricane's aftermath.

"I just want to show all Bahamians that we band," he

said. "No matter what, just stay strong."

- G. Williams



HAIL QUEEN: Jamaica's Fraser-Pryce captures hearts, minds, medals at World Champs

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

like Americans Allyson Felix, who gave birth less than a year ago, and Ali joined Fraser-Pryce to showcase what women have always known - they have power and are not afraid to unleash it.

"Just because you're a mom doesn't mean that you can't get out here and continue to be an athlete as well; a top world class athlete," said Ali. "And just watching that is always an inspiration, because I know how much our young ones look up to us. Oh man, it's been brilliant."

The message has rubbed off on male competitors.

"Having a baby and coming back with this attitude shows how powerful women really are; that their mind is on another level," said American Christian Taylor after winning the men's triple jump.

Track and field is fueled by sponsorship from sporting gear manufacturers. Increasing public pressure may finally be nudging them to pay based on production, not gender, age or both.

"As far as women who are mothers, that are still competing, I think the views are chang-

ing in a positive way," explained U.S.-based Jamaican Claude Bryan, agent for several elite Caribbean athletes, including Gardiner, Shaunae Miller-Uibo, Omar McLeod and Veronica Campbell-Brown.

"It helps the shoe industry company when society and the views of the public see these women in a positive light. Then it reflects positively on the sponsors."

LEAD

Fraser-Pryce is leading track and field's charge.

"Shelly-Ann, what she's really doing is to demonstrate how successfully women can live independent lives, both in their careers and also in their personal family life," Jamaican businessman Douglas Orane, who has known Fraser-Pryce for more than a decade, said here. "... It's a remarkable example, which I don't think is unique to her, but, because she is so well known, it is a tremendously positive example to young women everywhere."

Outside the sporting arena, the Caribbean is leading the way in recognizing the contributions of women. Research by Expert Market showed four



Fraser-Pryce and son Zyon

nations in the top 10 with the highest percentage of women in managerial positions. Jamaica was ranked first. On the track, however, Fraser-Pryce's influence has transcended stop-watches.

"Her being a veteran, had a baby and came back and still a world champion, that speaks volumes and that just shows me that I'm nowhere near the best as yet," said Jamaican Jonielle Smith, who made the 100 meters final here and joined Fraser-Pryce in the sprint relay. "So I have a whole lot more work to do."

Others embraced Fraser-Pryce's inspiration.

"(What she's doing,) it definitely is motivation," said Trinidad and Tobago's Kelly-

Ann Baptiste, a WCA 100 semi-finalist who turned 33 last month.

Fraser-Pryce admitted learning of her pregnancy made her cry. She worried about her future - if she'd ever get back to the top.

"For 10 weeks, I couldn't lift weights on my back and mentally, it's even harder because you're 30," Fraser-Pryce explained. "You're having a baby, the females are out there running fast. You wonder if you can come back."

So she fought back - for herself, family and, it seems, women everywhere.

"I knew how I felt and I knew I wasn't ready to go (into retirement)," said Fraser-Pryce, who claims having the baby made her faster. "I had something left to do and I stayed focused on the goal."

Good thing she did. "What (Fraser-Pryce) has done is amazing," said Felix said. "... Women are amazing and she's leading the way." All hail the queen.

Full Caribbean WCA results, Sports, page 19.



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Trump is winning the war to lower immigration numbers

FELICIA J. PERSAUD

Seemingly lost in the deluge of impeachment news coverage recently was the less heralded release of some new data from the United States Census' American Community Survey (ACS).

It is data that we should all take notice of as it marks the Trumpian impact on the U.S. in only three years.

The *New York Times* publication took note of the significance of the ACS data with a headline on Sept. 26, 2109 that read:

"Immigrant Population Growth in the U.S. Slows to a Trickle". The numbers are shocking in scope, since it

proves that in just three

years U.S. President Donald Trump and his immigration hardliners have managed to deliver a victory for Republicans on something they have been consistently worried about: Lowering immigration numbers to ensure the browning of America does not threaten their power base and keeps the Democratic voter base from growing.

Little wonder that so many in the Grand 'Ol Party are ready to hold their noses and support Trump, no matter how many rules or laws he breaks. Just as long as he makes America white again, it's alright, constitution and justice be damned!

Quoting the Times' article by Sabrina Tavernise: "The net increase of immigrants in the American population dropped to about 200,000 people in 2018, a decline of more than 70 percent from the year before, according to William Frey, chief demographer at the Brookings Institution, who conducted the analysis".

Let's repeat: A decline of more than 70 percent from the year before. That's one year after Trump took office!

STARTLING

Here are some other startling numbers as analyzed by Frey and reported by the Times.

1: "Immigrants as a share of the country's population remained flat at 13.7 percent, the highest share since 1910".

2: "The largest declines in levels of immigrants were among people from Latin America and Asia".

3: "The last time the pace



Trump

slowed so much was during the financial crisis in 2008, when the flow actually declined".

4: "Two states — New York and Illinois — had measurable declines in their foreign-born populations".

5: "Of the 14 states with the lowest concentrations of foreign-born people, 12 voted" for Trump.

David Bier, an immigration expert at the Cato Institute, told the Times that "this is something that really hasn't happened since the Great Recession."

Think about that for a moment — since the Great Depression. That's between 1929 and 1939, a time when anti-Mexican sentiments were growing and mass removal was being pushed.

'STREET SWEEPS'

More than 1.2 million Mexican immigrants were forced to leave the U.S. during the Great Depression. Sometimes, local governments and federal officials would collaborate in "street sweeps" and raids to round up Mexican immigrants who may or may not have been present in the country with proper documentation. Just like ICE raids do today.

In 1931, then U.S. Secretary of Labor William A. Doak was quoted as saying: "My conviction is that by strict limitation and a wise selection of immigration, we can make America stronger in every way, hastening the day when our population shall be more homogenous."

On Jan. 6, 1931, Doak requested that the U.S. Congress appropriate funds for the deportation of "illegal aliens" from the U.S. The Great Depression only renewed congressional debate about immigration.

Today, 90 years later, it looks like history is sadly repeating itself and the numbers now prove it.

Felicia J. Persaud is publisher of NewAmericasNow.



GOLDEN THROW: Anderson Peters is Grenada's latest sports hero

Anderson Peters became Grenada's lone medalist at the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar when he won gold in the javelin. He talked with *Caribbean Today's* Gordon Williams on Oct. 7, the day after his win, while on a flight to the United States where he attends school. The following is the interview edited for clarity and space:

QUESTION: What's the difference between being world champion today, and yesterday?

ANSWER: I guess people just look at you different. People just start paying attention to you more. Start, like, going back into your history to see, like, what you have done in the past to try and predict your future. That's just the major difference.

Q: The recognition that you're bringing to Grenada now, how important is that to you?

A: It's just important to me and my family to show the younger kids that there's other ways of winning medals. There's other ways of living, basically. You don't really have to be a sprinter ...

Q: You started out as a sprinter and you've idolized, for example, (Jamaica's) Usain Bolt, but you turned to javelin ... You are finding success. Any regrets looking back at it now?

A: Right now, no. I have no regrets at all. At first I was kinda upset when (the coach) told me to stop ... because I really like sprinting. But as I got older I understand why he told me to stop sprinting. I immediately started to see the success in javelin ...

Q: Can you say right now that you actually love the javelin?

A: Yeah, I do. (Laughs.) I love the javelin.

Q: What do you think your success will have on your nation, Grenada ... outside of sports?

A: It's a great accomplishment for Grenada. This is only our second medal in the World Championships and right now we have two gold medals. Coming from nothing to having two gold medals, that's a great achievement for my country. I think (Grenada) would put more effort into getting more athletes out into the U.S. on scholarships so that they exploit the facilities and the treatment so that they can become world class athletes.

Q: Do you think that, as a result of your success, the emphasis by U.S. college



Peters

recruiters will shift more towards recruiting field event athletes, not just the finished product, but looking at the potential to develop finished athletes?

A: Well, I definitely think so. Schools have been reaching out to some of my friends in the Caribbean, trying to recruit them ... I also think it's a great opportunity for athletes in the Caribbean, especially the throwers to get an opportunity to come to the U.S., get an education and then get a different level of competition and more competition.

Q: How do you think winning for Grenada brands your country ... how (others) view the Caribbean, the Caribbean athlete and Grenadian athlete?

A: Well, on the Caribbean on a whole, I think they're gonna view us different, definitely, because not only has the Caribbean been dominating in the sprints, but if you look at the results from this World Championships and past meets, you realize that Caribbean athletes have been dominating in the field events as well. I mean, we're basically taking over the sport and they're always gonna be looking out for us ...

Q: Any added pressure on yourself building up towards

(the 2020 Olympics) and do you feel the weight of that responsibility?

A: I'm already thinking about trying to defend that (WCA) title ... But I spoke to Kirani (James, Grenadian Olympic and WCA 400 meter gold medalist) and I asked him. I was like 'which gold medal meant more to you or which one shows better?' And he says to me 'the Olympic' ... It just motivates me to try and get one myself.

Q: You go to college in the U.S. Do you ... think that you carry a bigger weight now, especially since you're going back to school?

A: Being a world champion, man, that's something only a few people can say ... I think people (in the U.S.) will definitely look at you different ... They would appreciate you more, give you more recognition.

Q: As world champion, do you see yourself taking on an additional role ... speaking not just about Grenada, while you're in the U.S., but speaking to Grenadians about hard work and success, what they need to do?

A: I've been doing that, even before I became world champion ... When I go home (to Grenada) I try my best to go out to the schools and talk to the students. I try my best to get involved with the community ...

Q: Are you ready for the responsibility to be an ambassador for your country?

A: I don't think anybody can prepare well enough for that. That's something you just have to adapt to and then you just have to live with ... For me, (winning at WCA) just comes with a lot of responsibility.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

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VIEWPOINT



TIES THAT BIND: Father-daughter relationships can have deep consequences

Fathers and daughters have always had a special bond.

Daughters look up to their fathers for approval, guidance, strength and protection. Yet we hardly hear about the plight of daughters without fathers and the effect that it has on them. Mostly we are bombarded with stories about boys and their absentee fathers and how the young men suffer for this.

But there are also serious problems and challenges that daughters without fathers encounter. Sometimes these last for years, if not forever, and often impact future relationships. This absence could be for various reasons, ranging from death, migration, imprisonment to abandonment. All can be terrible. She may take it personally and become wracked with guilt.

DISOWNED

What's even worse is if the father disowned the

daughter, accusing the mother of infidelity and of bearing the offspring of another man. That abject and total rejection can burn her soul right into adulthood and scar her emotionally.

Research has documented that daughters who grow up without fathers actually experience puberty earlier than girls who live with their fathers. Sometimes those girls spend their entire lives seeking a father figure to fill that void, which may explain why some women are always involved with older men. Some women actually call their spouses daddy or pappy, especially in Latino and Hispanic cultures.



TONY ROBINSON



Some of these women actually end up having complicated feelings towards their spouses, as they still feel a deep anger towards their father who abandoned them.

BITTER

They are often bitter and angry all the time and don't even know why. This misguided anger is really pointed at

the father who was never there for her as a child.

Sometimes daughters will have their fathers present in their lives, but the man is so cold and aloof, lacking in affection and sensitivity, that it's almost as if he wasn't there. Many times these girls end up flitting from one short term relationship to another, as they seek affection, close-

ness and compassion from another male, something that they didn't get from daddy.

On the other hand, when the father is abusive towards his daughter, beating, slapping, punching her at will, that also scars her for life. In her mind, all men are abusive brutes, so all men will pay in one way or another. One weird irony in this scenario is that many of these women always end up in abusive relationships, as perhaps deep down in their subconscious they seek out abusive men ... just like their father. It's been suggested that women seek men with similar traits of their fathers as spouses.

So when you see some women acting in strange and unpleasant ways, many times they are victims of their past, and were no daddy's daughter.

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GOLDEN THROW: Anderson Peters is Grenada's latest sports hero

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

You just gotta be careful with everything you do right now.

Q: Is it weighing heavily on your mind whether to turn professional or not, finish school?

A: I'm thinking about it, but I'm not just going in hard at it right now. I'm just gonna let it play itself out ... I'm not gonna like pressure myself to say 'I need a contract now or I need to go pro now'. I just need to go to school and let it like work itself out.

Q: Do you think you made a nation happy?

A: Yeah man. They're definitely happy. (Laughs.) ... Yeah, I'm happy man. Imagine preparing for almost 10 years to be world champion, and then it happens.

Q: At what point did you start to feel you could compete and beat the world's best?

A: I've been having the best season of my life this season. This year after the NCAA I went on to the Pan American Games. (He won both.) After the Pan American Games that's when I really felt that I could win the World Championships ...

Anderson Peters, 22, is in his first semester as a junior at Mississippi State University, where he is majoring in business administration.



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Caribbean Airlines

Jamaicans finalize diaspora investment task force in U.S.

Jamaicans in the diaspora are rallying to address matters affecting their Caribbean homeland.

Last month, the Jamaican Diaspora Task Force Action Network (JDTAN) finalized its structure and invited the diaspora to become part of its mission “to invest their intellectual capacity in the land of their birth in service to national and global development,” according to a press release from the organization.

Organization members identified 15 “sectorial areas” aligned to Jamaica’s Vision 2030 National Goals, as well as the global sustainable development goals.

Diaspora members are being invited to join the mission by signing up at <http://diasporataskforce.callingalljamaicans.org>.



Haitian American immigration activist dies at 63

Jean-Robert Lafortune, a prominent member for the Haitian community in the United States, died last month after illness. He was 63.

Lafortune was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He left the French-speaking Caribbean country before arriving in the U.S. in 1980, where he attended Miami-Dade Community College and Florida International University. He worked for

Miami-Dade County as a community organizer and director of citizen participation at the Community Action Agency.



Lafortune

Lafortune was known for his volunteer community work and advocacy for immigrants’ rights in

the U.S. In 2003, he was named “Social Worker of the Year” by the Miami Dade County Social Workers Association. In 2002, he was named “Employee of the Year” by the Community Action Agency.

He helped get support for the Haitian Refugee Immigrant Fairness Act, which was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1998.



ORDER OF DISTINCTION



Robin Mahfood, right, president and chief executive officer of Food For The Poor, headquartered in Florida, receives the Order of Distinction, commander class, from Jamaica’s Governor General Sir Patrick Allen, during last month’s National Heroes’ Day ceremony in Kingston. Mahfood was recognized for his commitment to social welfare in the provision of housing.

Jamaica diaspora launches GJDC voter registration

Nov. 17 is the deadline to register to vote for Global Jamaica Diaspora Council (GJDC).

The formal voting period for those who have completed the registration process will be Nov. 21 through Dec. 15.

Those registered will be

able to vote in the election for members on the GJDC in diaspora regions United States, Canada and United Kingdom.

Registration forms are available at www.GlobalJADiasporaCouncil.com.



BRIEFS

Eric Williams Memorial essay contest

Entries are being accepted for the Eric Williams Memorial Collection’s regional school bags essay competition.

The competition is open to students in the Caribbean in lower and upper sixth form. Application deadline is Dec. 15. Winners will be announced Jan. 31, 2020.

For more information, visit www.ericwilliamsmemorialcollection.org.

CMEx awards next month in Miami

Janet Silvera, who writes for The Gleaner publication in Jamaica, and

Deltal Airlines executive Chris Kennedy will receive the 2019 Caribbean Media Exchange (CMEx) Leadership Awards next month in Miami, Florida.

Other CMEx honorees include chef José Andrés, of World Central Kitchen; Joseph Boschulte, commissioner of tourism, United States Virgin Islands; Frank Comito, director general and chief executive officer of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association; and attorney Marlon Hill.

The event is scheduled for Dec. 14.

Caribbean Bar presents scholarships, new board

The Caribbean Bar Association

presented scholarships and swore in its new executive board at the CBA’s 23rd annual Scholarship and Awards Gala last month in Miami, Florida.

Juana Cetoute and Kishel Stubbs, students at Florida International University College of Law, and Abdel C. Reyes Torres, a student at the University of Florida School of Law, were named scholarship recipients.

Craig Aquart, principal, at McHarry Associates; Kim Vaughan Lerner; Florida International University Law PATH Program; and Tricia “C.K.” Hoffler, president-elect of the National Bar Association were this year’s honorees.



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Fall is ideal time for West Indian corn soup

The West Indian corn soup is perfect for fall, as the weather starts to change and gets a bit colder. Here's how to make it:

Ingredients

- 2 tbs. vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1 lb. potato, peeled and quartered
- 2 carrots, diced
- 1/3 cup chives, chopped
- 1/4 cup celery, finely chopped
- 1/3 cup fresh thyme, chopped
- 3/4 cup yellow split peas
- 2 pimento pepper (optional)
- 8 cups chicken stock
- 1 scotch bonnet pepper or 1 habanero pepper, left whole
- 1/2 cup coconut milk (optional)
- 6 ears corn, cut into two-inch pieces
- 8 dumplings (or more)
- 1/4 cup cilantro, chopped
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- Flour for dumplings

Method

In a large soup pot heat

oil. Add the onions and garlic and sauté until fragrant.

Add the potatoes, carrots, celery, thyme and pimento peppers and cook for about five minutes stirring constantly. Add the split peas and stock.

Add salt and black pepper to taste. Add the scotch bonnet pepper and, if using, the coconut milk.

Cover the pot and simmer for about an hour until peas are soft.

Use an immersion or ordinary blender and puree soup to a thick and creamy consistency and return to the pot.

Add corn and dumplings and cook for a further 20 minutes until corn is cooked and the dumplings float to the surface.

Dumplings can be added to the soup in the last 10 min-



West Indian corn soup

utes, a mix of flour, water and sugar, made into small balls and dropped into soup.

Add cilantro, remove from the heat, taste and adjust seasonings.

If soup is too thick at any time, add water.

Serve hot.

- Edited from *News Americas*.



Ultra-processed foods gain ground in Caribbean ~ PAHO



Fast foods isn't always good food.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A new report by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has revealed that ultra-processed foods are gaining ground among Caribbean and Latin American families.

The report, published on Oct. 23, stated that ultra-processed food, sugary beverages and fast food with poor nutritional quality are replacing more nourishing domestic foods in diets of families in the region.

According to PAHO, the report showed that sales of ultra-processed foods and beverages grew 8.3 percent between 2009 and 2014, the last year for which data were available. The report estimated that those sales continued to grow another 9.2 percent from 2014 to 2019, “generating alarming effects on health and requiring government regulations to reverse this trend.”

“We are observing the beginnings of an epidemic of

ultra-processed food consumption,” said Fabio da Silva Gomes, regional advisor in nutrition at PAHO. “Its sales are growing disproportionately in comparison with those of other foods, filling families’ tables with products that do not contribute to good health.”

PROMOTION

Gomes said the trend is promoted by “the marketing and the unrestricted publicity of these products in a market that is practically deregulated in the region.

“We need governments to establish policies that restrict sales of these products,” da Silva Gomes added. “Ultra-processed products cannot form the basis of our nutrition. They can't be an essential product in our diets.”

Together, 43 percent of what these products contribute is sugar, the report stated, adding that soft drinks, fresh and salted snacks, cookies, pies, cakes and desserts, and sauces and dressings were “especially problematic.”

The report noted ultra-processed products typically contain little or no whole foods.

- Edited from *CMC*.



Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival Nov. 10 in Miramar

The annual Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival will be held **Nov. 10** at the Miramar Regional Park in Miramar, Florida.

This year's event will offer a variety of jerk delicacies, cooking competitions, the Publix Culinary Pavilion, live

stage entertainment performances and a Kidz Zone.



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WAITE NOT IN VAIN: Patience paying off for Caribbean Canadian actor onstage, TV, movies

DAWN A. DAVIS

It wasn't always obvious Jamaican-born Romaine Waite would be an actor.

Sure, as a child he had an outgoing personality that sometimes got him in trouble and today, all grown up, he can be seen in television, stage and movie productions.

However, like most Caribbean parents, his had other plans for his future - lawyer or doctor perhaps - which is where he thought he was headed.

The road to the spotlight unwound slowly. Waite did a bit of theater in high school, but at that time acting still never crossed his mind as a career option. Then he got cast in an independent film. It was the spark that burst into the flame which is today fueled by his own ambitions.

"It was after (that) experience ... that I got the opportunity to go from the beginning right up to the end — the premiere and screening — and it really planted the seed for me," Waite explained to Caribbean Today.

"I said, 'wow this is it, I can actually do it'. That became the catalyst for the journey that I'm on now."

REALIST

Waite said he's a realist. He listened to his mother, who advised that while he could pursue his passion, he had to have a back-up plan. Just in case.

"One thing I understood early is ... nothing is for certain," he said. "My mom would always say to me 'don't leave certainty for uncertainty'. That's the one thing I kinda kept in mind as I pursued acting."

The Toronto-based Waite studied computer science technology while actively carving out a career in entertainment industry. It appears to be paying off.

"I'm at the point now where the scales are starting to tip in favor of my passion,



Waite says he's still honing his craft.

and that has allowed me to fully commit to it," Waite said.

"Early in my career, someone said don't spend your energy climbing the wrong mountain only to get to the top and have a clear view of where you should have been."

Two projects stand out as important landmarks in his early career. In a theatrical production of "Nuts", Waite played a lawyer. The two-hour long production garnered positive reviews.

"It was kind of a confirmation for me and my ability," Waite said. "It gave me the confidence to continue doing this."

BREAKTHROUGH

His first major onscreen role in the **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)** drama series "Murdoch Mysteries" was his introduction to the Canadian entertainment industry.

"That was the moment for me, where I was stepping into this new realm and introducing myself and my talents to Canada," Waite said.

There is no looking back for the actor, who was born in Montego Bay and migrated to Canada with his parents at age seven. Waite said he keeps abreast of trends, roles and the nuances of the entertainment industry that can make him a better actor. He's eager to explain the difference between acting on stage or on in film.

"When you're doing theater, you're working with the

cast, you're developing your character, you're working on your lines," Waite said. "And once you get to that performance you're almost like a wind-up toy, all the energy gets outputted at once. And then you wind up again for the next show."

"Whereas, with film and television, it's a little more of an ebb and flow. You'll have a rush of energy, then you have to stop as the crew resets the camera, or you try a different take or a different angle and then you go again."

"It's about control with theater performance so that you can make it through the two-hour show. And film and television is about reserving that energy knowing that you will have multiple takes, multiple locations and so on."

RESPONSIBILITY

Waite believes his role as an actor carries great responsibility. He said he approaches each project with the intention to be truthful in the role and hopefully inspire viewers to start conversations about their commonality as humans. He also understands his wider role as a black actor in an industry not always known for diversity.

"At this point in my career I don't feel as though I haven't been granted any other opportunity that other actors have had," he explained. "I don't feel like I haven't been given a chance to be successful or to pursue this avenue wholeheartedly."

"What I can say, pertaining specifically to the Canadian industry, is that I haven't seen many roles or projects that specifically speak on the minority narrative or the black narrative. We've definitely come a long way. I've seen a handful of projects that have had that narrative. But, I would like to see more, not just for African Americans, but for every minority group."

"I think that cinema has

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

HONOR AND RESPECT



Brothers Ian, left, and Roger Lewis, founding members of the Inner Circle Band, last month received national honors from their homeland Jamaica. They received the Order of Distinction officer class at the 2019 Ceremony of Investiture and Presentation of the National Honors and Awards 2019 in Kingston. Inner Circle Band, based in South Florida, was formed more than 50 years ago and is known for hits such as "Bad Boys". Former band member Jacob Miller was also honored posthumously.

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'Taste of Lauderdale Lakes' set for Nov. 16

Music, art and food with a distinct Caribbean flavor will be among the attractions at this month's "Taste of Lauderdale Lakes" culture festival in South Florida.

The event is will be held from **1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 16** at the Lauderdale Lakes Waterfront, 3900 N. State Rd. 7, Lauderdale Lakes.

Live main stage entertainment will feature soca, reggae

and R&B, provided by the band A. Randolph and the Smash Room Project, along with CriStyle Renae, Morris Sisters, and Shelly Sweetshell. The line-up also includes Queen Ilise, Haitian duo Zoumpa and Lauderdale Lakes songstress Antonia Jenae.

"Taste" aims to promote local and regional businesses, reinforce community through

food, music and art, while showcasing the city's culture.

Other scheduled festival highlights include: a restaurant showcase, arts and culture village, food trucks and vendors, a VIP garden and kids corner.

Tickets are available online at tasteoflauderdale-lakes.com.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



www.caribbeantoday.com

Cuban female photographers examine migration, activism in new Florida exhibition opening Nov. 20

The works of 10 United States-based female Cuban photographers, providing a look at the diverse histories of migration, community, activism and resistance, will be on display this month through next in South Florida.

“Feminist Archive: Cuban Women Photographers in the U.S.” will be exhibited **Nov. 20 to Dec. 21**. It’s being presented by Bailey Contemporary Arts, 41 N.E. 1st St., Pompano Beach.

A free opening reception will be held from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 20 during Old Town Untapped.

The exhibition is being presented as part of the launching activities of Women Photographers International Archive (WOPHA), an organization reportedly dedicated to research, promotion, support and education on the role of women, and those identified as women, in photography. It is being curated by art historian Aldeide Delgado, whose project collates the works of Cuban women photographers from the 19th Century to the present.



Delgado - Photograph by Pedro Avendaño



Yali Ramagoz's "Meditating my way out of Capitalism".

The exhibition shows the varied contributions of Cuban women artists living and working in the U.S. since the seventies, when the concept of

a collective Latino identity became crucial, stated a recent press release to promote the exhibition.

Featured artists are Aurora de Armendi, Carlotta Boettcher, María Magdalena Campos-Pons, Coco Fusco, Nereida García Ferraz, Silvia Lizama, María Martínez-Cañas, Yali Romagoza, Gladys Triana and Juana Valdés.

“U.S.-based female Cuban artists have flourished as a result of a more openly creative environment in which they now live,” added Phyllis Korab, cultural affairs director. “The photographs freely explore their experiences without censure.”

Admission to the exhibition is free. For more information, visit www.baileyarts.org.



Poets stage two-week tour of Jamaica

Twenty-one poets are scheduled to take part in a two-week tour of Jamaica this month.

The Jamaican Poets All-Island School Tour will launch 6 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Edna Manley College in Kingston. Guest speaker will be Andrea Chung, co-founder of Kingston Creative. Chung is also a shareholder in Bookophilia and founder of Go Global Art, an online art gallery.

The evening will conclude with readings by the poets who are participating on the tour.

Among the features of the 2019 tour will be a free poetry workshop at 2 p.m. Nov. 7 at the University of the West Indies, Mona. The main workshop presenter is Professor Opal Palmer Adisa, a Caribbean writer and scholar, currently a faculty member at UWI.

OPPORTUNITIES

The poets will be headlined by tour founder Malachi Smith. Other poets include Chery Natural, Tomlin Ellis, Ann Margaret-Lim, Judith Falloon-Reid, Fabian Thomas, Klyde Brooks, Richie Innocent, Wise Wurdz, Antonia Valaire, Howard Hendricks, Ras Jaja, Marcus Harrison, Garfield G.G. Gouldbourne, Anord Sichinsambwe, Amaziyah The Great, Alan Parish,



Smith founded the tour.

Dawitt St. Aubyn, Dusty, Charlie Bobus and eight-year-old Courtney Greaves.

The tour was launched in 2017 to provide opportunities for Jamaican poets to read and share with students, while showing the positive role of poetry and its role as a tool of empowerment. It also aims to also empower, while showing them how poetry can be used in conflict resolutions and their personal growth.

Among the scheduled tour stops are UWI, Mico University College, Campion College, Kingston Technical High School, JYTC Auditorium, YWCA – Spanish Town, Ocean Village – Ocho Rios, Cornwall College, Mount Alvernia High, Montego Bay High, St. Elizabeth Technical High School, Glenmuir High and Bookophilia.

For more information, contact Smith at mali-smith58@gmail.com or mali-smithsmith@aol.com or call 305-302-5365.



WAITE NOT IN VAIN: Patience paying off for Caribbean Canadian actor...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

that ability to open those conversations so that we’re no longer siloed in our different communities, but we are assembled as one and can see the different nuances, and more importantly, the things that make us the same.”

Waite said there is a long list of actors and directors/producers he would like to work with. Among them are Jamaican Oliver Samuels, Denzel Washington, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Tyler Perry and Martin Scorsese. For now, he continues to grow in the industry and revel in the field he has embraced as his voice.

In movies and television Waite has appeared in productions such as “The Girlfriend Experience”, “Star Trek Discovery” and “Private Eyes”. He is currently working on a CBC show called “The Detectives” and can be seen

on the Hallmark Channel in the series “Crossword Mysteries” as well as the CBC television drama “Frankie Drake Mysteries”.

Waite is already a successful actor, but claims he’s still fine-tuning his skills.

“I’m definitely still growing, still learning,” he said. “The way a carpenter builds and works on his craft is the same way that we have to work on our craft.”

“When you work on your craft you not only become familiar with your tools and how you work and how you want to present yourself, but it also builds the confidence to deliver the character or do the work when you get called upon. And, from that point on it’s just patience.”

Dawn A. Davis is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



Successful Women in Business



In March Caribbean Today will spotlight Successful Women In Business. Join Caribbean Today as we showcase these hard working women who have left their mark on the business community in South Florida. If you would like to nominate someone please send your nominees to Editor@caribbeantoday.com or Peter.Webley@caribbeantoday.com

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Guyana president's cancer in remission after Cuba check-up

GEORGETOWN, Guyana – Guyana President David Granger has been given a promising diagnosis after completing a medical evaluation last month in Cuba related to being diagnosed with non-Hodgkin Lymphoma last year.

A statement issued by the Guyana Embassy in Cuba noted that the medical specialists in Havana “have expressed complete satisfaction with the state of the President's health and have explained that the President's ailment is now in remission.

“In keeping with the strict medical procedures of the Cuban health system, he is expected to return to Cuba for another scheduled routine medical check in January 2020. Thereafter, the next evaluation will be in June 2020,” the statement added.

Prior to his return, the 77-year-old Granger met with the Cuban Foreign Affairs Vice-Minister Ana Teresita



Granger

Gonzalez Fraga, “who took the opportunity of discussing some aspects of Guyana-Cuba relations,” the statement noted.

Granger is expected to lead the coalition A Partnership for National Unity into the Mar. 2, 2020 regional and general elections here.

- Edited from CMC.



November is prostate cancer awareness month

November is also “Movember”, the global movement to raise awareness about prostate cancer and other men's health issues.

One in 350 men under age 50 will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, according to the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

As men age, the chance that they have prostate cancer increases. One in 52 men who are between 50 and 59 will be diagnosed with the disease.

There is no sure way to prevent prostate cancer. Some risk factors for prostate cancer are not within a man's control. These include age and family history. But men can do things



The older men get, the chance they get the disease increases.

that may help lower their risk of getting prostate cancer.

The following are prostate

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

Caribbean nations implement HEARTS to fight hypertension



Regular blood pressure testing can help control hypertension.

Several Caribbean nations have implemented an initiative aimed at improving hypertension prevention and control.

Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago have joined up with HEARTS, which is promoted by the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization in partnership with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Hypertension is one of the risk factors for cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks and strokes, the principal causes of death in the Caribbean.

“Implementing the pack-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

What every family needs to know about Parkinson's disease

Debbie, 63, and Doug Chambers, 72, had always been a social couple, enjoying travel, dinners with friends and going to the movies.

But their active lifestyle began to change in 2016 when Doug's gait became slower and he had difficulty concentrating. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease soon thereafter.

There was a learning curve as Debbie and Doug adapted to managing the disease, especially with the onset of unexpected non-movement symptoms.

As his condition progressed, Doug would regularly scan the environment outside his home, looking people up and down, as if assessing their potential to do harm. At the senior center, he was concerned that the water was poisoned and that the staff was antagonistic toward him. He couldn't be convinced that his beliefs were untrue.

SYMPTOMS

Doug was experiencing hallucinations and delusions associated with Parkinson's, symptoms that around 50 percent of people with



- Photograph © Monkey Business / stock.Adobe.com
It's important to talk to a physician if you believe your partner is experiencing Parkinson's.

Parkinson's may experience over the course of their disease, according to a study published in the Lancet Neurology.

The onset of non-movement symptoms, like hallucinations and delusions, can impact both the person with Parkinson's and their caregiver's quality of life. According to a recent survey conducted by the Parkinson and Movement Disorder Alliance (PMDA), 90 percent of people with Parkinson's (or their caregivers) reported experiencing non-movement symptoms associated with

Parkinson's and nearly half felt these were harder to live with than movement symptoms.

Further, of those reporting non-movement symptoms, most said they had a significant negative impact on sleeping (60

percent), planning for future events (55 percent) and partner intimacy (53 percent).

Non-movement symptoms aren't reported to physicians often. Only 10 percent to 20 percent of those experiencing hallucinations and delusions associated with Parkinson's proactively report it to their health care providers.

ROLE

Some may not connect the symptoms to Parkinson's, or feel embarrassed to discuss

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

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HEALTH



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U.S. hospital ship to work with medical professionals in Haiti

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti – The American Embassy here has announced the arrival of the hospital ship USNS Comfort as part of the operation Sustainable Promise of the United States Navy.

The initiative aims to intensify U.S. engagement in the Caribbean region to strengthen the health pillar of the U.S./Caribbean 2020 strategy.

This stopover is a stage of the ship's tour of the Caribbean and Latin America, which, over five months, carries out a mission of medical assistance. Medical teams from USNS Comfort will work alongside medical professionals from Haiti to provide services to adults and children.

In addition, basic surgical care will be provided on board the ship and medical profes-



The American medical ship is making a tour of the Caribbean.

sionals from other countries have embarked on the Comfort to join the effort to provide medical care to patients.

This will be the seventh mission of a hospital ship in the Caribbean since 2007 and the fifth in Haiti since the beginning of the decade.

The ship's medical teams also provided care in other Caribbean nations, including Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St Lucia and St. Kitts and Nevis.

- Edited from CMC.



The Bahamas worries over high diabetes rate

NASSAU, The Bahamas – Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands says diabetes mellitus is a devastating and costly non-communicable disease and is the fifth leading cause of death in The Bahamas.

"The prevalence of diabetes increased from 6.7 per cent to 9.2 per cent in 2005, and has now reached epidemic proportions at 13.6 percent in 2019," Dr. Sands told delegates attending the International Podiatry

Conference here late last month.

"Our rate stands at 37.9 deaths per 100,000 persons due to diabetes."

Dr. Sands said many people with uncontrolled diabetes experience foot and ankle ailments and complications and that every year, more than one million people with diabetes lose at least a part of their lower limb. He said that prevention of foot ulcers is an important priority in Podiatric

Medicine and for the diabetic patient. It is reported that 85 percent of all amputations are preceded by an ulcer and can thus be prevented.

Dr. Sands said podiatry services were reinstated in the public sector a year ago. Since then, almost 700 patients were treated between the ages of three months and 98 years. Twenty-seven percent of the patients seen were diabetics.



What every family needs to know about Parkinson's disease

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

it, but doctors say these non-motor symptoms can potentially be addressed and caregivers play an important role in this process.

"A person with Parkinson's may not understand that certain images they see or beliefs they hold aren't true, making input from caregivers on their loved one's day-to-day behavior critical to helping their doctor address these aspects of the disease,"

says Dr. Neal Hermanowicz, director of the UC Irvine Movement Disorders Program.

Caregivers are two to four times more likely than people with Parkinson's to recognize the presence of hallucinations and delusions, according to the PMDA survey.

Debbie felt compelled to share Doug's symptoms with his movement disorder specialist when he began accusing her of infidelity, a commonly reported delusion among

those with Parkinson's.

If you believe your loved one is experiencing hallucinations or delusions as a result of Parkinson's disease, talk to their neurologist and learn more at MoretoParkinsons.com.

You can also find support through a Parkinson's disease organization, many of which include support for caregivers.

- Edited from StatePoint.



Cuban doctors criticize conditions at U.S. center

Two Cuban doctors have claimed they and other detainees were forced to live in unhealthy conditions while held at an immigration detention in the United States.

According a story published by CNN, the Caribbean-born doctors were placed at the Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center in Louisiana while they sought

asylum in the U.S. While there, each for more than a year, they said "they watched

people around them receiving poor medical care, but - despite their years of training - felt powerless to help," the news network reported.

One of the doctors has since been deported, while the other remains in U.S custody.

Both stated in court documents that they saw mold on the walls of the center, medical officers making incorrect diagnoses and the improper use of quarantines.

DENIAL

The center is run by a private company which, CNN reported, "strongly disputes" the doctors' allegations.

The U.S. Immigration and

Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency, which placed the doctors at the center, told CNN it "couldn't comment on the specific allegations due to pending litigation, but said the agency provides 'comprehensive medical care' and is committed to the welfare of everyone in its custody".

According to the story, the doctors said center guards

"It has become quite clear to me that our safety is not a priority of the staff here, which is deeply upsetting" – doctor

"painted over mold on the walls rather than fixing the problem." They also claimed

"water would

run down the wall and pool onto the floor" to become a safety hazard. A detainee reportedly slipped in the water and broke his arms.

One doctor described the conditions at Pine Prairie as "unsafe, unsanitary and discriminatory."

"It has become quite clear to me that our safety is not a priority of the staff here, which is deeply upsetting," one doctor stated in his June court filing.

ICE claims it spends \$260 million a year on health care for detainees, according to the CNN story.



November is prostate cancer awareness month

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

cancer prevention tips:

- Eat fruits and vegetables every day. Include tomatoes, broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage. Also include beans, peas and lentils.

- Limit high fat meats and high fat dairy foods, including hamburgers, sausages, cheese and ice cream. Instead, eat lean meats, fish and low fat or nonfat dairy foods.

- Limit calcium in your diet. Too much calcium may raise your risk for prostate can-

cer. Normal amounts of calcium in dairy foods and drinks are fine, but talk to your healthcare provider before taking calcium supplements.

- Stay at a healthy weight. Obesity is linked to a higher risk for a more deadly type of prostate cancer.

- Get physical activity. Be active at least 30 minutes on most days.

- Edited from Broward Health.



Caribbean nations implement HEARTS to fight hypertension

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

age of measures that HEARTS includes, which are simple and of proven effectiveness, can prevent complications from cardiovascular diseases and premature deaths," PAHO/WHO experts have noted.

Hypertension is a problem that contributes to heart disease. However, it is estimated that 40 percent of people with hypertension in the Caribbean do not know their condition. Of those who know they have hypertension and receive treat-

ment, around 20 percent have their blood pressure controlled.

Among the HEARTS initiative's measures for primary health care workers are the establishment of a protocol for the management of hypertension, adoption of a set of drugs and technologies of proven effectiveness to treat hypertension, re-organization of the tasks of the health team, registry and monitoring of progress; and advice to patients on healthy habits and lifestyles.



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Canada issues travel advisory as violent political turmoil hits Haiti

OTTAWA, Canada – The government of Canada has warned nationals to avoid traveling to Haiti as violent protests and widespread civil unrest have been taking place across the Caribbean nation for several weeks.

According to security officials, the situation in the French speaking country could deteriorate quickly and large demonstrations were scheduled to take place from Nov. 4 to 6.

“In addition to this volatile situation, the country is also experiencing water food and fuel shortages,” the officials said. “Many businesses and banks are closed, making it difficult to access cash and commodities of all kinds.”

The Canadian government said roadblocks have been disrupting transportation

across the country.

“There have been reports of armed protest orders who throw rocks or shoot at vehicles that get close or kidnap people for ransom money.”

HOSTILITY

On Nov. 1, Radio Canada said there had been widespread hostility towards citizens from the United States and Canada.

“Last week protesters reportedly threw rocks at the Canadian Embassy in Port-au-Prince ... the walls in Port-au-Prince are covered with graffiti against the UN and also against what everyone here knows as the ‘Core Group’, a group of donor countries, including Canada, the United States, European Union and the Organization of American States.”

The political and economic crisis in Haiti was triggered by the publication in Jan. 2019 of a report on the Venezuela-funded PetroCaribe Oil initiative, under which Caracas provided oil and other petroleum products to Haiti under a preferential agreement.

Opposition parties have been staging street demonstrations over the past weeks demanding the resignation of President Jovenel Moïse, whom they have accused of engaging in corruption linked to the Venezuelan funded oil initiative, PetroCaribe.

However Moïse, who came to power in 2017, has said he has no intention of stepping down and instead has proposed a national dialogue so as to move the country forward.



SPIRIT OF JAMAICA



- Photograph by Derrick Scott

Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States Audrey Marks, center, joins John Woolcock, left, Jamaica Tourist Board's manager of group and conventions, and Filippo Lapides, national brand manager of Enovation Brand, at the Jamaica Tourist Board Spirit of Jamaica Road Trip last month in Washington, D.C.

U.S. restricts air service to Cuba

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States Department of State says the administration of President Donald Trump has restricted scheduled air service to Cuban airports.

“At the request of the Secretary of State, the U.S. Department of Transportation suspended until further notice scheduled air service between the United States and Cuban international airports other than Havana's Jose Marti International Airport to prevent the Cuban regime from profiting from US air travel,” the U.S. Department of State declared in a statement issued on Oct. 25 referring to U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo.

“U.S. air carriers will have 45 days to discontinue all scheduled air service between the United States and all airports in Cuba, except for Jose Marti International Airport,” it added.

POLICY

In keeping with Trump's foreign policy toward Cuba, the U.S. State Department said “this action prevents revenue

from reaching the Cuban regime that has been used to finance its ongoing repression of the Cuban people and its support for Nicolas Maduro in Venezuela.

“In suspending flights to a total of nine airports, the United States impedes the Cuban regime from gaining access to hard currency from US travelers staying in its state-controlled resorts, visiting state-owned attractions and otherwise contributing to the Cuban regime's coffers near these airports,” the State Department noted.

It stated the U.S. “continues to hold Cuba accountable for its repression of the Cuban people and its interference in Venezuela, including its unconscionable support of the illegitimate Maduro regime.”

- Edited from CMC.



Pompeo

Caribbean Airlines to launch two new routes in December

Caribbean Airlines will launch two new services in the region next month.

The airline will offer flights between Kingston, Jamaica and Havana, Cuba Dec. 13. The flights will operate twice weekly - Wednesday

and Friday.

Caribbean Airlines is also scheduled to launch flights between Kingston and Grand Cayman on Dec. 3. The service will operate Tuesday and Saturday.



Caribbean cruise ship bans passenger for life after taking selfie on ship's railing

MIAMI, Florida – Royal Caribbean Cruises said it has banned a passenger for life after she was seen taking a selfie on the railing of Allure of the Seas as it approached Labadee, Haiti last month.

“... A guest was observed recklessly and dangerously posing for a photo by standing on her stateroom balcony rail-

ing with the help of her companion,” Royal Caribbean noted in a statement.

“Security was notified, and the guests were later debarked in Falmouth, Jamaica as a result of their actions, and are now banned for life from sailing with Royal Caribbean.”

Peter Blosic, a passenger

on the Allure of the Seas, said he saw the unnamed woman taking the selfie while he was on his balcony.

“It happened so quickly,” Blosic told CNN. “Not knowing what her intentions were, I alerted the crew.”





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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Political protests take toll on Haiti's tourism industry

The planned closure last month of the Best Western Premier, the first all-inclusive five-star United States hotel franchise to open in Haiti, is the latest sign political upheaval in the French-speaking Caribbean nation is hurting its tourism industry.

The 106 room hotel, located in the district of Pétionville built at a cost of \$15 million and financed locally by the Carabimmo group, opened six years ago, but scheduled to pull its shutters Oct. 3.

Best Western Premier blamed the closure on economic and political instability in Haiti, where Opposition

political parties have been staging street demonstrations in a bid to force President Jovenel Moïse out of office. Moïse, who came to power in 2017, said he has no intention of stepping down. But visitor arrivals haven't stepped up.

"There are no tourists, no one comes to stay at the hotel," said Stanley Handal, a Carabimmo representative. "There is no reason to stay open."

WAIT AND SEE

He said that as of Oct. 31 the hotel "will no longer be on Best Western's global network," adding "if there are people interested in buying

then, we will sell. Otherwise we will wait."

Best Western is not the only hotel that has fallen victim to the demonstrations that have paralyzed the country. Last month the Hôtel Mont-Joli, situated in Cap-Haïtien, announced its closure after it had come under attack during demonstrations.

Tourism Minister Bocchit Edmond said last month there had been attacks on several tourist establishments in areas across the country recently.

- Edited from CMC.



St. Lucia to host Caribbean Secondary Schools Drama Festival

CASTRIES, St. Lucia – Visitors to St. Lucia this month will be able to enjoy the Caribbean Secondary Schools Drama Festival.

The festival is being held under the theme "L'Espwi Theatre" (The Spirit of Theatre), the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and

Sustainable Development announced recently.

It noted that the Nov. 3-9 event is the first and only performing arts exchange program for secondary schools in the Caribbean region.

"Let us ensure that Caribbean integration and visitor arrivals to our shores is continued through the legacy

of what we bring to this drama festival," said Chief Education Officer Fiona Phillip Mayer.

"What we are going to give is the best of our culture and hospitality. We are glad to support and lead the charge in this venture."



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U.S. House honors Jamaican hospitality businessman

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States House of Representatives last month honored Jamaican businessman Kevin Hendrickson, managing director of The Courtleigh Hospitality Group (CHG) in Kingston, capital of the Caribbean nation.

Hendrickson was honored for being "a courageous, resilient, intelligent and loving community leader, and as a valued member of the community who dedicated his time to ensuring the betterment of his employees and customers."

According to CHG, the U.S. Congressional Proclamation was signed by Democratic Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, daughter of Jamaican immigrants, who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York.

"A continual effort to strengthen local communities here in Jamaica is at the heart of our business model," Hendrickson noted in a statement.

"We take great pride in giving back to local charities, engaging our guests to do the same, and empowering staff involved in community service programs.

"It is particularly gratifying to see that our efforts have reso-

nance within the U.S. House of Representatives. I'm truly honored to receive this proclamation on behalf of my family, our dedicated staff and partners."

PORTFOLIO

A veteran of 35-plus years in the Jamaica hospitality industry, CHG said Hendrickson owns and operates the majority of hotel accommodations in Kingston. His CHG comprises The Courtleigh Hotel & Suites, The Knutsford Court Hotel, The Jamaica Pegasus and the former Wyndham Kingston Hotel (now in re-development).



Hendrickson

CHG said Hendrickson's hospitality portfolio also includes the 512-room Holiday Inn Resort® Montego Bay.

CHG said Hendrickson also supports numerous charitable organizations, including Missionaries of the Poor, the Jamaica Cancer Society, The Salvation Army and Food for the Poor.

- Edited from CMC.



Canada warns visitors to Jamaica about 'high level of violent crime'

OTTAWA, Canada – The government of Canada has updated the emergency status for Jamaica on a travel advisory due to a continued high level of violent crime on the Caribbean island.

In the advisory, Canada noted that the Jamaican government had declared a state of emergency effective until Oct. 19 for the parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine. It added that a further, a state of emergency was effective until Oct. 28, for the parishes of St. James, Hanover and Westmoreland, which include the tourist resort towns of Montego Bay and Negril. In addition, a state of emergency has been declared for the Corporate Area, including Kingston, which is in effect until Jan. 4, 2020.

A "high degree of caution" is issued when there "are identifiable safety and security concerns or the safety and security situation could change with little notice." As such, tourists in Jamaica are being asked to exercise a high degree of caution at all times, as well as monitor local media and follow the instructions of

local authorities.

PROBLEM

The advisory states that, "violent crime, including armed robbery and murder, is a problem in large cities despite the presence of police to counter criminal activity. The availability of firearms is widespread, and most violent drug and gang-related crimes, especially murder, involve firearms. If you are staying at a resort in an affected area, you are advised to restrict your movements beyond resort security perimeters."

It urged Canadians, who may want to travel outside of the resort, to use transportation arranged or provided by the resort.

"Likewise, you should use organized tour operators for excursions and travel to and from the airport," it noted.

Canada also warned that the Jamaican police "may impose curfews with short notice in areas where gang activity is a concern."

- Edited from CMC.



RICH MEDAL HAUL: Caribbean shines at IAAF World Championships in Qatar

GORDON WILLIAMS

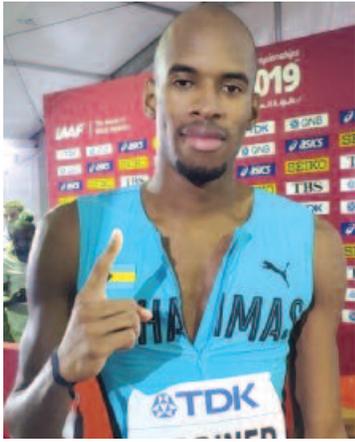
DOHA, Qatar - Caribbean athletes marched into one of the world's wealthiest nations and left with a rich haul of medals.

The region secured 18 in total at the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA), which ended here last month, including six gold, seven silver and five bronze.

Jamaica led the way, winning 12 - three gold, five silver and four bronze. Cuba followed with three - gold, silver and bronze. The Bahamas earned gold and silver and Grenada won gold.

The United States topped the WCA medal table with 29, including 14 gold, 11 silver and four bronze. Jamaica finished third. Cuba was tied for 12th, The Bahamas placed 15th and Grenada 17th.

The Caribbean's medal haul began on Day 2 of the 10-day meet when Jamaica's Tajay



- Photograph by Gordon Williams

The Bahamas's Gardiner was number one in the 400 meters.

Gayle won the men's long jump with a world leading leap of 8.69 meters. Cuba's Juan Miguel Echevarría, who entered the competition ranked number one in the world, finished third with 8.34 to earn bronze.

PUSH

Jamaica's podium push

gained momentum the next day, picking up two more medals. Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, competing at her first global championships in over two years after having a child, re-established herself as the world's fastest woman by winning 100 meters gold in a world leading time of 10.71 seconds.

Fraser-Pryce returned to

earn another gold as part of Jamaica's women 4x100 meters team, which also included Nattaliah Whyte, Jonielle Smith and Shericka Jackson. The Jamaicans clocked a world leading time of 41.44 seconds.

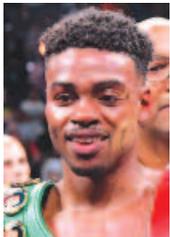
Steven Gardiner snatched the Caribbean's other gold on the track by winning the men's 400 meters in a Bahamian

national record 43.48 seconds. Gardiner, who finished second in the event at the last WCA in 2017, said he was inspired by personal ambition, support for his team and compassion for his nation, which was devastated by Hurricane Dorian early September.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20)

Jamaican American boxing champ injured in car crash

Undefeated world welterweight boxing champion Errol Spence Jr., son of Jamaican parents, is recovering from a car crash in Texas.



Spence Jr.

He was reportedly the driver of a Ferrari which was traveling at high speed on Oct. 10. Police said the car "veered left over the center median onto the southbound lanes and flipped multiple times, ejecting the driver, who was not wearing a seatbelt."

Spence escaped life-threatening injuries. He suf-

fered lacerations, but no broken bones and was listed in stable condition after the crash. He is expected to make a full recovery.

Spence, 29, was born in Long Island, New York to Jamaican Errol Spence Sr. and his wife Debra, but moved with his family to Texas at age two. Spence Jr. credited his father, a huge fan of late boxing great Muhammad Ali, for getting him involved in boxing by taking him to the gym.

He currently holds the unified world welterweight title for boxers in the 147-pound class. His ring record is 26 wins with 21 knockouts.



'Reggae Girlz' soccer player stabbed to death

A member of Jamaica's national women's soccer team, also known as the "Reggae Girlz", was stabbed to death late last month in the Caribbean island.

According to the police, shortly before 9 p.m. on Oct. 31 Tariana Clarke, 20, also known as "Plum Plum", was involved in a dispute with another female when she was

stabbed. The police said a friend of Clarke was arrested.

Clarke was a midfielder. She last represented Jamaica in the Caribbean leg of the Olympic qualifying tournament in late September and was expected to take up a soccer scholarship in the United States.



Jamaican sprinter wins U.S. high school award

South Florida-based Jamaican sprinter Briana Williams has been named "High School Athlete of the Year" by the United States publication **Track and Field News**.

Williams, who attends Northeast High School, achieved major success in 2019, winning sprint gold at the CARIFTA Games in the Caribbean and the Under-20

Pan Am Games. She also qualified for Jamaica's senior team to the IAAF World Championships in Athletics, but drug tests conducted on Williams at the national trials showed an adverse analytical finding. She was given a reprimand, but declined to compete at the championships.



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SPORTS



VCB ponders track return after giving birth to daughter

DOHA, Qatar - A decision whether or not Jamaican sprinter Veronica Campbell Brown will continue her track career, after giving birth to her first child, will be made by year-end, according to her management team.

United States-based Campbell Brown, a former world and Olympic champion, became a mother in February. She is considering a comeback, with an eye on competing in next July's Olympic Games.

"We don't know yet," her Jamaican agent Claude Bryan told *Caribbean Today* during the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA), which ended here last month.

"... Veronica, being the competitor that she is, we have

sat down, we have had discussions and we will continue to have discussions. And, prior to the end of calendar year, a decision will be made."

INCENTIVES

Campbell Brown, popularly known as "VCB", turns 38 a couple months before the Olympics, among the main incentives for her wanting to return.

"(VCB) is getting on in age so obviously there are not a lot more international windows for big championships, like the Olympic Games or this one (WCA)," Bryan explained. "... The decision to run or not to run would be made cognizant of the fact that next year is the Olympic Games."

Campbell Brown is married

to former Jamaica athlete Omar Brown. The couple's daughter is Avianna Amora. At the time of his conversation with *Caribbean Today* Bryan said she had not yet returned to full training, describing Campbell Brown's program as "just active rest."

Several mothers have returned to successful careers in track and field, including Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who won a fourth WCA 100 meters title here. Her son was born in Aug. 2017.

Campbell Brown won gold in the 200 meters at the Olympics (twice) and WCA. She's also won WCA gold in the 100.

- G. Williams



T&T's Simmons returns as West Indies cricket coach

Trinidadian Phil Simmons has been re-appointed head coach of the West Indies senior men's cricket team.

Cricket West Indies (CWI), which governs the game in the Caribbean, made the announcement last month.

Simmons is a former West Indies opening batsman and seam bowler. He beat out interim coach Floyd Reifer and former West Indies player Desmond Haynes for the position.

Simmons was West Indies coach for just over a year after the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015. He had some success, leading the team to its second ICC Men's T20 World Cup title.



Simmons

The current West Indies team has been in a slump, losing to India recently in successive Test, one-day international and Twenty20 series. Two of those T20 games were played in South Florida.



RICH MEDAL HAUL: Caribbean shines at IAAF World Championships...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19)

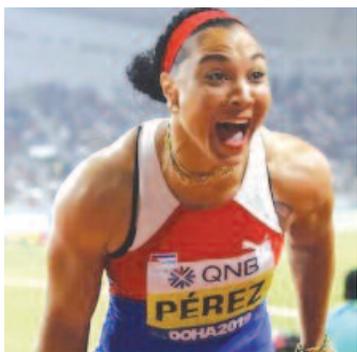
"I went through each day and I can't believe I am a world champion," Gardiner told reporters. "I was born in the Caribbean ... It feels pretty good ... We did it for our country."

The Caribbean's other gold medals came from field events. Cuba's Yaimé Pérez won the women's discus with a throw of 69.17 meters, while Grenada's Anderson Peters won the men's javelin, throwing 86.89 meters.

SILVER

Jamaica also snatched silver in the 4x400 meters mixed relay - each team with two men and two women - beaten into second place by the world record run by the U.S. The Americans clocked three minutes 09.34 seconds. Jamaica was timed in a national record 3:11.78. Jamaica's men also won silver in the men's 4x400, clocking 2:57.90 behind the U.S., which won in a world leading time of 2:56.59.

Fedrick Dacres earned another silver for Jamaica in the men's discus with a throw of 66.94 meters, second to



Pérez landed discus gold for Cuba.

Sweden's Daniel Stahl (67.59). Dacres's compatriot Danniell Thomas-Dodd's throw of 19.47 meters was also good enough for silver in the women's shot put, won by China's Lijiao Gong (19.55).

Shaunae Miller-Uibo clocked a personal best 48.37 seconds for silver in the women's 400 meters, beaten by Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser in a world leading time of 48.14. Jamaica's Jackson finished third in 49.47, also a personal best.

Pérez's teammate Denia Caballero finished second in the women's discus, throwing 68.44 meters.

Shanieka Ricketts earned

silver for Jamaica in the women's triple jump with a leap of 14.92 meters. Yulimar Rojas of Venezuela won with 15.37.

BRONZE

Rushell Clayton handed Jamaica a bronze in the women's 400 meters hurdles. Clayton clocked a personal best 53.74 seconds. The gold was won by Delilah Muhammad in a world record time of 52.16. Muhammad's U.S. teammate Sydney McLaughlin clocked 52.73, a personal best, for second.

The Caribbean closed out the championships with multiple medals on the final day. Danielle Williams picked up bronze for Jamaica in the women's 100 meters hurdles clocking 12.47 seconds. The American pair of Nia Ali (personal best 12.34) and Kendra Harrison 12.46 finished one-two.

Jamaica also earned bronze in the women's 4x400 meters relay, finishing in 3:22.37 behind the U.S. (3:18.92) and Poland (3:21.89).



SPORTS BRIEFS

Florida Netball Classic

Multiple teams from the Caribbean are expected to participate in the annual Florida Netball Classic set for this month.

The tournament will be staged **Nov. 23 and 24** at the Coral Springs Gymnasium, 2501 Coral Springs Dr., Coral Springs.

MoBay to host U.S. college basketball

Jamaica will again host The Jersey Mike Jamaica Classic, among the United States college basketball pre-conference season tournaments.

The weekend tournament will take place **Nov. 22 to Nov. 24** at the Montego Bay Convention Centre.

This year's tournament, which will be headlined by Southeastern Conference school Louisiana State, has also attracted Mountain West Conference team Utah State, Conference USA representative North Texas and Rhode Island. Rounding

out the eight-team field are Nicholls State, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Mid-American Conference team Eastern Michigan and North Carolina A&T.

Bolt for NFL?

Retired Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt, who holds the world record in the men's 100 and 200 meters, has playfully hinted his interest in pursuing the National Football League (NFL).

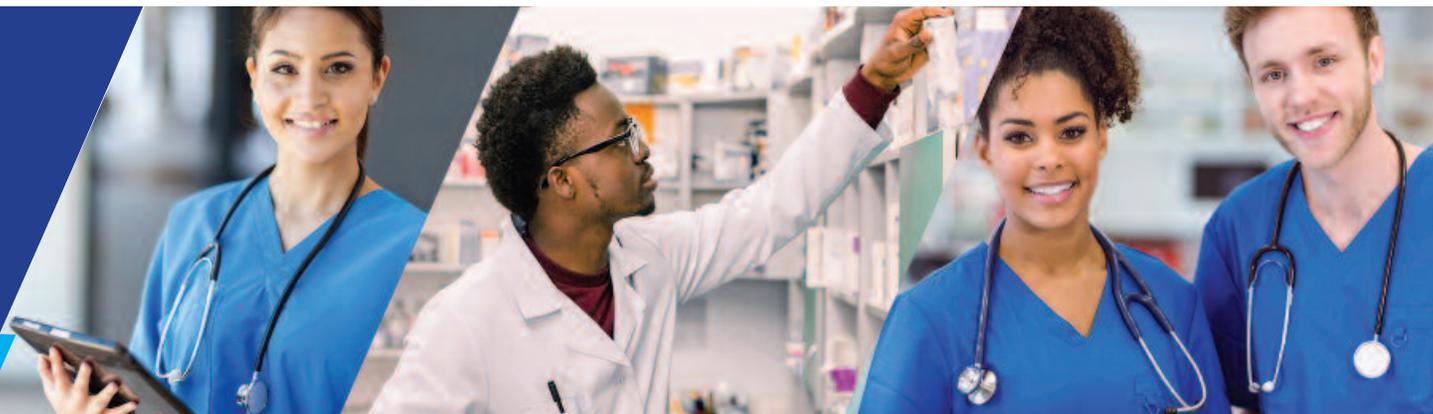
Bolt, 33, who failed in his quest to play professional soccer after he left the track, recently told a reporter with a smile: "If the (NFL's New England) Patriots or (Green Bay Packers') Aaron Rodgers called me, if they call me, I'm ready." Bolt, reportedly a Packers fan, has never played American football competitively at any level.

- Compiled from multiple sources.



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Peter A. Webley, Publisher

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'ReadCaribbean' to highlight 2019 Miami Book Fair

"ReadCaribbean", a series including readings, panel discussions and storytelling for children which highlight the vibrant, diverse literary culture of the region, will be among the highlights of the Miami Book Fair (MBF) presented this month by Miami Dade College (MDC).

"ReadCaribbean" programs are made possible through the support of the Green Family Foundation and the FIU Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center. Programs are created in partnership with Sosyete Koukouy, which is dedicated to preserving Haitian culture in the United States.

"The Green Family Foundation is proud to be a part of supporting Caribbean authors as they tell their own stories and bring their truths to people around the world," said Kimberly J. Green, president of the Green Family Foundation.

"More than a million and a half Africans, along with many Indians and South Asians, were brought to the Caribbean between the 15th and 19th centuries. It is their legacy combined with the contemporary descendants who bring their strong and lasting traditions into focus."

Some author events at "ReadCaribbean" will be done in creole or French with simultaneous translation into English.

MBF is arguably the largest literary gathering in the U.S. The following is the schedule for "ReadCaribbean" at MDC (All discussions in Room 8301, Bldg. 8, third floor, except where noted.):

• Nov. 23

11 a.m. - Caribbean Myth, Mythology, and Science Fiction. Listen to four contemporary Caribbean writers, Imam Baksh (Guyana), Ann Dávila Cardinal (Puerto Rico), Karen Lorde (Barbados) and Breanne

McIvor (Trinidad), read from and discuss stories. Their writings address questions of race, gender and class fundamental to society. Moderated by Eddy Edwards.

1 p.m. - Caribbean Writers: Race, Gender, and Representation.

Edwidge Danticat (Haiti), Kevin Adonis Browne (Trinidad), Candice Carty-Williams (Jamaica) and Jaquira Diaz (Puerto Rico) will comment on how their own perceptions and representations of gender, race or ethnicity may have changed in recent years and what traces of micro-aggression, fragmented identity, collective guilt and memory mean for writing. Moderated by M.J. Fievre.

Edwidge Danticat (Haiti), Kevin Adonis Browne (Trinidad), Candice Carty-Williams (Jamaica) and Jaquira Diaz (Puerto Rico) will comment on how their own perceptions and representations of gender, race or ethnicity may have changed in recent years and what traces of micro-aggression, fragmented identity, collective guilt and memory mean for writing. Moderated by M.J. Fievre.

Lorde

3 p.m. - Caribbean Journeys Through Time and Space.

Panelists will discuss how they create and consider real and imagined spaces, with particular attention to identity and territoriality. David Chariandy (Trinidad/Toronto), Sara Collins (Jamaica/London), Angie Cruz (Dominican Republic/New York) and Uva de Aragón (Cuba/Miami) will explore how old addresses and new ones have shaped their literary selves and their work.



Baksh



Lorde



Browne

• Nov. 24

11 a.m. - Haitian Drama in Its Death Throes. (In English, with simultaneous interpretation into Haitian creole.)

Panelists Paula Clermont Pean, Menes Dejoie, Bob Lapierre and Frantz Kiki Wainwright will discuss Haitian theater and explore how mindful storytelling, empathy and metaphor are elements that can be used to illuminate how to be better citizens in increasingly harsh realities.

1 p.m. - Is Haiti a Nation State? (In English, with simultaneous interpretation into Haitian creole.) Five panelists, whose living and writing transcend national borders, will reflect on one of the world's most complex places, focusing the question: How can we re-imagine Haiti - a home in crisis? Victor Benoit, Christophe Charles and Alin Louis Hall will discuss the enduring difficulties Haiti has faced since Independence. Moderated by Pierre Gerson Joseph.

3 p.m. - Caribbean Voices: Rising Tides

(In French, with simultaneous interpretation into English.) A panel will explore the aesthetics of Caribbean fiction by delving into conversations on the ways that the homeland of origin exerts emotional, cultural, spiritual and imaginative influences both on the individual and collective consciousness. Panelists Ernest Pepin, Dominique Lancaster, Yamile Stitt and Lyonel Trouillot will combine readings from their works and discussion on the rising tides in new Caribbean literary narratives. Moderated by Jean-Jacques Garnier.

For a complete list of authors of Caribbean heritage, visit www.miamibookfair.com, call 305-237-3528 or email wbookfair@mdc.edu.



Luncheon links celebrated authors

Several authors with Caribbean roots will be among those celebrated at the "Linked in Action Book and Author Luncheon" this month in South Florida.

The event, being presented by the Greater Miami Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, will be held on **Nov. 17** at the JW Marriott Marquis in downtown Miami.

Authors such as former United States Ambassador Andrew Young, Judy Smith, Terry McMillan, Natalie Baszile,

E. Lynn Harris, Bebe Moore Campbell and Edwidge Danticat will be recognized.

Doors for the luncheon will open at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact greatermi-amilinksinc.org.



Danticat

'Let Me Tell You Something', Lovelock's humor offers guide

- **TITLE: LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING**
- **AUTHOR: J.A. LOVELOCK**
- **REVIEWED BY: DAWN A. DAVIS**

Want some insights on feminism, religion, politics that will make you laugh, cry, or scream? You'll find them all in a book by J.A. Lovelock.

Her unique wit and engaging musings, that come from experiences and observations on contemporary life, is probably what is needed to escape a life filled with so many distractions. The recently published "Let Me Tell You Something" is a collection of commentaries published in the United Kingdom version of the Jamaica Gleaner over the years.

With 16 topics and divided into two sections, a reader can focus on themes or interests. But, if you read from cover to cover, there is an intermission in the middle, offering time and permission to laugh out loud, bitch or simply absorb.

Lovelock's rumination on life's quirks are particularly perceptive, yet tickling. For example:

"I like a good gossip. Don't we all? Love to talk 'bout people business. But I am actually finding it difficult to find many people to labrish with these days. Seems like everyone gaan PC. But here this. Gossiping is good! And if you're not doing it you are missing out, according to professors at the University of Pavia in Italy.

They discovered (don't ask me how) that having a good natter about others is good for your health as it releases oxytocin. Oxytocin, for the unscientific among us, is the pleasure or happy hormone. The body releases oxytocin during mother and child bonding, when we touch each other, and before and after sex. So if you are not involved in any of the above you can still get your oxytocin

fix from a good gossip. So go on, treat yourself, talk 'bout everybody you know. Itch inna people business (but if dem tump you down, don't call me!) Me hear say Miss Matti husband..."

RELEVANT

What makes this book relevant and accessible is that Lovelock weaves her own philosophy on life through these once-published opinion pieces, creating a seamless fabric textured with facts, street wisdom, and humor.

As funny as some of her contemplations are, readers are assaulted with the immediacy and reality of some of the subjects she tackles, like the reality of police stop and search of black men, human rights and sexual assault perpetrated by celebrities. She handles these topics respectfully, not just with her own take on it, but also with concrete examples of incidences and their outcomes. In this way, lessons are learned and readers are left to ponder.

A quick and enjoyable read, Lovelock's book does what it set out to do, share contemporary stories, anecdotes and wisdom to lighten the load many carry just navigating through the 21st Century. She even throws out Jamaican proverbs to warn and teach us to live fully, yet with eyes open. When was the last you heard these tidbits of wisdom?

"Fiyah deh a musmus bat-tam, im tink a kool breeze!

Mi cum yah fi drink, mi nuh cum fi count cow!"

Take these traditional oral lessons and run with it, as Lovelock has in her own life. A lawyer, lecturer, legal consultant, writer and radio presenter, this British Jamaican woman is the perfect example of how to carve out your own future in an unpredictable world. And this book reflects her colorful life journey.

Dawn A. Davis is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



Caribbean American set to release 'Suitcase' of ideas on coping with mental health issues

Hazell McKenzie, a Caribbean American mental health advocate, is scheduled to release her new book "Suitcase of Dreams" Nov. 5.

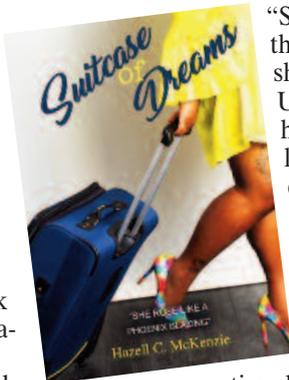
"Suitcase" is being promoted as "memoirs" which "aim to be a beacon of hope to those who are struggling through various stages of mental illness and to provide real insight and spark constructive conversation about the trials and tribulations which lead to and are caused by these situations."

McKenzie was born in St. Vincent and is based in the United States. She's been a social worker, mental health ambassador, recording artiste,

television personality, entrepreneur and single mother.

According to her, the inspiration behind "Suitcase" began more than 20 years ago when she migrated to the U.S. as a teenager hoping for a better life. The book explores the growing pains she suffered as a new Caribbean immigrant adjusting to life in the U.S., which would set her on a path of emotional challenges, including

dealing with family members' deaths, difficulties of single parenthood, battles with chronic depression, stagnation, anxiety, paranoia and a lack of coping mechanisms for the ordeals which would eventually push



Miami Book Fair

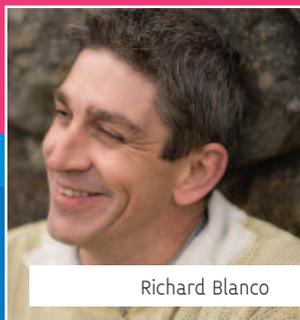


ReadCaribbean

THE OFFICIAL CARIBBEAN LITERATURE PROGRAM OF MIAMI BOOK FAIR

Featuring Caribbean-specific events, including readings and panel discussions, children's writers to inspire young readers, storytelling and music on the stages, plus publishers at Street Fair. When appropriate, author events will take place in Creole or French with simultaneous translation into English.

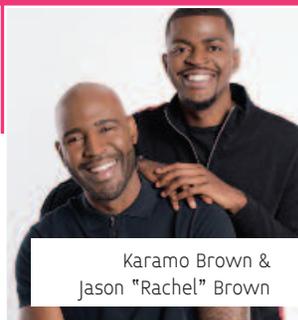
Dozens of Authors from the Caribbean, including:



Richard Blanco



Kevin Adonis Browne



Karamo Brown & Jason "Rachel" Brown



Ann Dávila Cardinal



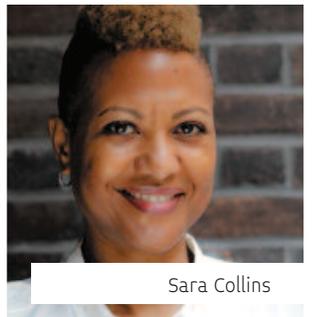
Candice Carty-Williams



David Chariandy



Paula Clermont Pean



Sara Collins



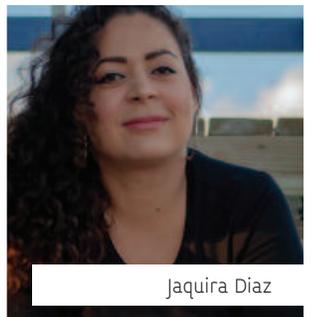
Edwidge Danticat



Kwame Dawes



Uva de Aragón



Jaquira Diaz



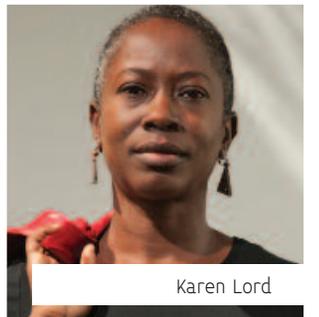
Mj Fievre



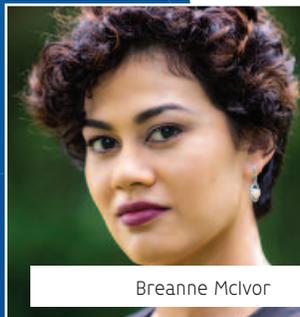
Curdella Forbes



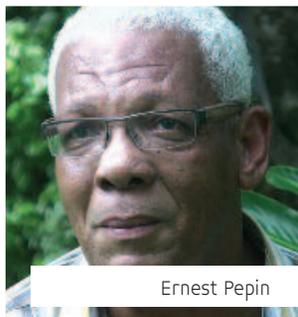
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