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SEPTEMBER 2018



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Vol. 29 No. 10

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Florida voters, including the large Caribbean American population, will face possibly their most clear cut choice in decades when they elect the state's next governor. The pick is between Democrat Andrew Gillum, left, and Republican Ron DeSantis, page 2.

Reggae/dancehall star Chronixx was among the stars on show at the first "D.C. World Reggae Festival", which delivered a promising launch in Washington, D.C. last month, despite a controversial letdown at the final act, page 15.



CRACKDOWN



~ Caribbean nationals, many who for decades have legally made the United States their home, may be among targets of a fresh government crackdown which could force them, including some naturalized citizens and permanent residents, to leave the U.S., page 7.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

~ Nationals from four Caribbean countries, including two seniors, have been arrested and charged with voting illegally in the 2016 election in the United States. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, five accused Caribbean nationals are among 20 foreigners indicted so far, page 3.



- Photograph by MAF/Getty

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NEWS



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BATTLE LINES DRAWN: It's Gillum versus DeSantis for Florida governor

GORDON WILLIAMS

Florida voters, including the large Caribbean American population, will face possibly their most clear cut choice in decades when they elect the state's next governor in a couple months.

Following the Aug. 28 primary elections, two 39-year-olds emerged to represent their political parties - Democrat Andrew Gillum and Republican Ron DeSantis.

On Nov. 6 voters will decide who will hold the highest political office in Florida.

Gillum's victory was viewed as a "shocker", since the only reportedly "non-millionaire" in the race, as Gillum called himself, never led the primary polls. He also raised far less campaign support money than main rivals Gwen Graham, a former congresswoman, Philip Levine and Jeff Greene.

Gillum, the mayor of Florida's capital city Tallahassee, won just over 34 percent of the votes cast, according to preliminary results. Graham followed with 31 percent, Levine 20 percent and Greene 10 percent.

If elected in November, Gillum, viewed as a progressive liberal who supports diversity, single-payer health insurance and higher wages, will become Florida's first African

American governor. On primary night, the candidate who supports the impeachment of United States President Donald Trump and vowed to replace the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency, said he represents everyone in the state.

"I'm going to be the next governor of Florida," Gillum, who was endorsed by democratic socialist U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, told a national television network post-primary. "I just happen to be black ... The way we were going to win this race is letting voters know I'm gonna be the governor for all."

'TRUMP CULT'

His November opponent is a candidate firmly backed by Trump. The Trump-DeSantis connection was displayed in a series of broadcast advertisements during the primary campaign.

DeSantis, a conservative Iraq War veteran who supports Trump's agenda, including building a border wall and repealing the Affordable Care Act signed into law by former President Barack Obama, secured 56 percent of the votes to trounce closest rival Adam Putnam with 36 percent.

Television commentator Joe Scarborough, a former



Gillum, left, and wife R. Jai on election night

Republican congressman from Florida, said DeSantis has "bought into the Trump cult." In his first words as the Republican nominee, DeSantis expressed gratitude to his top backer.

"Thank you, Mr. President," he told the crowd in Orlando.

TURNOUT

The Florida governor primaries drew a large voter turnout - combined, well over three million - between Democrats and Republicans. The numbers were almost equally split between the parties. The choices, however, are not that close.

"The battle lines have been

drawn," said Scarborough.

Early reports indicated Gillum secured support across the state, including South Florida counties such as Miami-Dade and Broward, which are heavily populated by Caribbean Americans.

"I gotta tell you all I am overwhelmed," an elated Gillum said on election night

He's confident Florida's diverse population would rally to his message in November.

"We fully anticipate we'll be able to capture the hearts and minds and consciousness" of the voters, said Gillum.

UNITY

He vowed to unite

Democrats who were split during the 2016 presidential primary between Sanders and Hillary Clinton. Gillum supported Clinton, who beat Sanders but lost the presidency to Trump.

Gillum has called Trump "unqualified" and a "bad" president. He said Trump has "completely disrespected" people of color in the U.S., pointing to the president's reference to Haiti and some African nations as "shit hole" countries.

"We're going to make clear to the rest of the world that the dark days that we've been under, coming out of Washington, that the derision and the division that has been coming out of our White House, that right here in the state of Florida we are going to remind this nation of what is truly the American way," Gillum told supporters.

DeSantis almost immediately mired himself in a racial firestorm after the primary. Appearing on **Fox News**, DeSantis, referring to Gillum, said: "The last thing we need to do is to monkey this thing up by trying to embrace a socialist agenda with huge tax increases and bankrupting the state."

Florida Democratic Party Chairwoman Terrie Rizzo fired

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



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CAUGHT: Caribbean nationals charged for illegal 2016 election voting in U.S.



GORDON WILLIAMS

Nationals from four Caribbean countries, including two seniors, have been arrested and charged with voting illegally in the 2016 election in the United States.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), five accused Caribbean nationals were among 20 foreigners indicted.

Among the charges are claiming, falsely, to be U.S. citizens and registering to vote and "voting by an alien". A person must be an American citizen to vote in the U.S.

Caribbean nationals were among nine indicted in North Carolina by a federal grand jury. They are Elvis David Fullerton, 54, from Grenada, 71-year-old Olive Agatha Martin of Guyana, and 35-year-old Sarah Emilia Silverio-Polanco of the Dominican Republic.

They were charged with falsely claiming to be a U.S. citizen so they could register to vote and then attempting to vote. If found guilty, they will face up to six years in prison, a possible \$350,000 fine and supervised release if they serve a prison term. Some could be deported, although reports indicated that maybe not all of them understood they were not eligible to vote.

PLEA

The Dominican Republic's Ramon Esteban Paez-Jerez, a 58-year-old deportee who returned to the U.S. under a fake identity and was granted U.S. citizenship in 1999, was also indicted for passport fraud and voting by an alien. He pleaded guilty and could be imprisoned for up to 11 years and fined \$350,000.

Meanwhile, Dieudonne Soifils, a 71-year-old Haitian national, was indicted for "voting by an alien" and faces up to a year in prison, at least a \$100,000 fine and supervised release.

Soifils, one of nine in the group of foreign nationals indicted who is a legal permanent resident of the U.S., has had a "green card" since 1976. According to the indictment, he also voted in the 2012 and 2016 U.S. elections.

Nationals from El

Salvador, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines and Poland were also charged with illegal voting. A Korean national, who up to press time the Justice Department hadn't identified as being from the North or South, was also

indicted.

The DOJ made its announcement on Aug. 24.

President Donald Trump claimed widespread voter fraud in the 2016 U.S. election. Trump did not provide any evidence to back his claim. He was elected presi-

dent via the Electoral College, but lost the popular vote to rival Hillary Clinton by three million.

According to the DOJ, the voting violations were discovered by a new federal task force in the Eastern Judicial District of North Carolina.

The task force is being led by the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement division and the Diplomatic Security Service in the U.S. State Department.



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CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

T&T celebrates 56th anniversary of Independence

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Trinidad and Tobago observed its 56th anniversary of political Independence from Britain on Aug. 31 with the traditional military parade and differing statements from politicians regarding the socio-economic development of the oil-rich twin island republic.

President Paula Mae Weekes urged citizens to continue ensuring the development of the country.

"Fellow citizens, on 31 August 1962, Trinidad and Tobago shook off the reins of colonialism and dared to go it alone," Weekes explained.

However, Weekes asked, considering the current challenges of crime and the economy, plus the island's use of the London-based Privy Council as its final court, the world economy and global climate change, how independent T&T is.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith

Rowley said the anniversary of Independence provides citizens with another opportunity to reflect on the meaning of citizenship and the value of its national identity.

"In many countries people do not enjoy the freedoms we may be tempted to take for granted," said Rowley. "That our democracy has remained intact these 56 years is no small feat. This deserves celebration given our status as one of the most multi-cultural societies in the western world."

AHEAD

Opposition Leader Kamla Persad Bissessar said the Independence anniversary provides an opportunity for "assessment of our progress and the difficulties that still lie ahead."

"The question must be asked: Have we achieved the Trinidad and Tobago which

the leaders of our fight for Independence envisioned more than half a century ago?" she said, claiming T&T faces significant issues.

Caribbean community (CARICOM) Secretary General Irwin LaRocque paid tribute to the creativity and dynamism of T&T's people and the "significant contributions" the country has made to the regional integration process.

United States Secretary of State Michael Pompeo praised the relationship between Washington and Port of Spain.

"We are grateful for the continued strong partnership as our countries work to deepen cooperation on trade, energy, and opportunity for all," Pompeo said.

- Edited from CMC.



Ex-Caribbean soccer boss's U.S. lock-up delayed again

NEW YORK – For the eighth time, a disgraced former soccer boss from the Caribbean has had his prison sentencing delayed.

Jeffrey Webb, the 54-year-old ex-president of the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) and former vice president of world soccer's governing body FIFA, pleaded guilty in Nov. 2015 to racketeering, wire fraud and money laundering conspiracies in the United States-led crack-down on bribery and corrup-

tion in international soccer.

The Cayman Islands national was due to be sentenced last month, but that was re-scheduled scheduled for next year.

Webb has been under house arrest in the U.S. for most of the time since his guilty verdict and has already agreed to forfeit more than \$6.7 million.

However, he was able to secure the latest postponement through his lawyer Ernie Gao, who asked prosecutors to push sentencing back by six months. This means that sen-

tencing is likely to take place in Mar. 2019.

Webb, who is also wanted in the Cayman Islands, had been named in a 47-count indictment announced by the U.S. Department of Justice, with Trinidadian Austin "Jack" Warner, a former CONCACAF chief and long-serving FIFA vice president also included.

For more sports, turn to page 19.



N.Y names street to honor Haitian revolutionary

NEW YORK – A street in Brooklyn has been renamed to honor Haitian revolutionary leader Jean-Jacques Dessalines.

New York State Assembly member Rodneyse Bichotte, daughter of Haitian immigrants, and New York City Council member Jumaane D. Williams, son of Grenadian immigrants, were instrumental in the renaming of the street

Jean-Jacques Dessalines Boulevard.

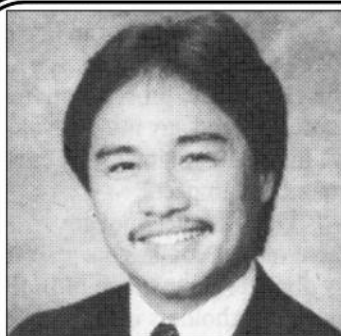
The unveiling ceremony took place last month in the boulevard situated in the heart of Little Haiti BK (Brooklyn).

"Jean-Jacques Dessalines is an individual whose historical importance is difficult to understate," said Bichotte.

"He was a man who led the first successful slave revolt in world history and, in so

doing, created the first free black republic in the Western Hemisphere and the second independent country in the region right after the United States of America gained its Independence in 1776.

"With this street co-naming, we are undoing in a concrete and tangible way centuries of the trivialization of our history," said Bichotte.

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Puerto Rico hurricane deaths thousands more than reported

The official death toll from last year's devastation of Puerto Rico by Hurricane Maria has been raised to almost 50 times the number first reported on the Caribbean island, a new report released late last month has stated.

According to Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Roselló, 2,975 deaths are now linked to the hurricane, which smashed into the island in Sept. 2017, up from 64 originally announced.

The new statistics resulted from an independent study commissioned by Roselló and published by researchers at George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health. Just weeks before the announcement, Puerto Rican officials conceded that Maria was responsible for more than 1,400 deaths on the island. A study by Harvard University, released in May, estimated 4,645 were killed by the hurricane.

OFFICIAL

The statistics released last month, and accepted by the



Roselló

governor as official, make Maria the deadliest natural disaster in the United States for more than a century.

The new study focused on deaths between Sept. 2017 and Feb. 2018, including those caused by absence of communication, missing guidelines certifying deaths and lack of preparation for a hurricane of Maria's power.

The governor accepted his government's failure to establish effective strategies to measure the death toll, despite claims by U.S. President Donald Trump that the death toll was much lower because the government had implemented adequate measures.



Jamaica wants to double U.S. farm, hospitality workers

Minister of Labor and Social Security Shahine Robinson wants to increase the seasonal work program for Jamaicans in the United States.

Robinson made the announcement last month after a meeting with officials in the U.S. departments of labor, state and homeland security in Washington, D.C. According to the minister, from all indications the U.S. response to Jamaica's request was positive.

At present there are 7,000 Jamaicans participating in the program in the U.S.: 4,981 in the farm work program and 1,693 in hospitality.

"I am looking to double

this figure," said Robinson, "as this program is important to the Jamaican worker and to the economy as well as to the U.S."

VISIT

Robinson, along with State Minister in the Ministry of Labor and Social Security Zavia Mayne, were in the U.S. capital where discussions were held with U.S. Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs in the Department of Labor Martha Newton; U.S. Assistant



Robinson

Secretary of State for Consular Affairs in the Department of State Carl Risch; and Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Dougherty.

The minister and her delegation made an official visit to the U.S. Aug. 13-17, toured farms in Albany, New York, where she met with over 60 workers and employers, some of whom have been with the program for over 40 years. She also visited hotel workers at Sea Island Resort in Georgia, which employs over 170 Jamaicans under its hospitality program.



U.S. indicts Barbados politician on money laundering

Donville Inniss, a former Barbados minister of industry, international business, commerce and small business development, was last month indicted in the United States for conspiracy to launder money and money laundering, following his alleged acceptance of bribes from a Barbadian insurance company in 2015 and 2016.

Inniss, 52, was arrested Aug. 3 and arraigned before U.S. Magistrate Judge Julie Sneed in the Middle District of Florida at the federal court-

house in Tampa. He was released on a \$50,000 bond. He has pleaded not guilty.

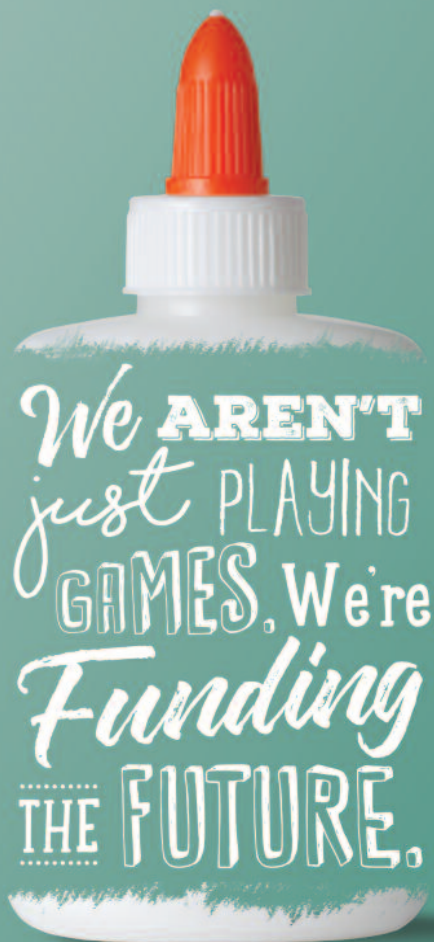
A three-count indictment was unsealed in federal court in Brooklyn, New York.

According to the indictment, between Aug. 2015 and April 2016, Inniss engaged in a scheme to accept approximately \$36,000 in bribes from high-level executives of an unnamed insurance company headquartered in Barbados and launder that money through the U.S.

In exchange for the bribes,

Inniss, a legal permanent resident of the U.S. residing in Tampa and Barbados, allegedly leveraged his position as minister of industry to enable the Barbados company to obtain two government contracts. He allegedly concealed the bribes by arranging to receive them through a dental company and a bank located in Elmont, New York.

- Edited from CMC.



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NEWS



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SO SORRY: Britain apologizes for wrongfully deporting Caribbean nationals

LONDON, England – Britain has apologized to 18 people who were deported to the Caribbean or detained because they could not produce documents to prove their right to live in the United Kingdom.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid, who said their treatment was “completely unacceptable,” on Aug. 21 apologized for the situation after a protracted analysis of almost 12,000 immigration cases.

London published a new estimate of the number of people deported in error to the Caribbean as part of the government’s commitment to provide monthly updates on how it is handling the continuing fallout from the so-called “Windrush” scandal.

The review found that the 18 people were “most likely to have suffered detriment because their right to be in the U.K. was not recognized” and Javid said that these were the cases he believed his “department is most likely to have acted wrongfully”.

CONTACT

The Home office said that it has been in contact with 14 of the 18 people and were trying to contact the others. It said that the most serious cases include 11 people who were wrongfully deported and



Many Caribbean nationals arrived in the U.K. on the ‘Windrush’.

another seven who were detained but not deported.

The figure of 18 is lower than the 63 previously estimated to have been wrongfully removed from the country. However, the government has

significantly adjusted the way it is calculating the total.

But observers say the adjustment of the calculation will prove controversial among Windrush campaigners, who argue that if someone has the right to citizenship, then it is wrong to deport them, even if they have spent long periods out of the country or committed an offense.

UNACCEPTABLE

“The experiences faced by some members of the Windrush generation are completely unacceptable and I am committed to righting the wrongs of the past. I would like to personally apologize to those identified in our review and am committed to providing them with the support and

compensation they deserve,” Javid said.

“We must do everything we can to ensure that nothing like this happens again, which is why I have asked an independent adviser to look at what lessons we can learn from Windrush,” he added.

The update, issued in a letter to the home affairs select committee, stated that 2,272 Windrush generation people had been helped to get the documentation needed to prove their right to be in the U.K. Some 1,465 people had been granted citizenship or other documentation to prove their status under the scheme.

- Edited from CMC.



BRIEFS

U.S., Bahamas agree to joint narcotics fight

The Bahamas and the United States have pledged to continue joint efforts in the fight against corruption with the signing of an amendment on Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement between both governments.

The Eighth Amendment to the Letter of Agreement on Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement was signed last month during a ceremony at the Office of the Prime Minister.

Under it, the U.S. will provide over \$1.4 million for law enforcement professionalization support, rule of law, transparency and anti-corruption reform in The Bahamas.

U.S. lawmakers talk energy, border in Guyana

Issues related to the oil and gas sector as well as the border commentary with Venezuela were discussed when Guyana’s President David Granger and a government team met last month with a visiting delegation of United States congressmen and other American officials.

According to a statement from the Ministry of the Presidency, Granger, who described the visit



Granger

as a “fact-finding” mission, presented a geographic overview of Guyana, its hemispheric affiliations and shared borders; a strategic outline, which outlined the Guyana/ Venezuela border controversy, territorial controversy with Suriname, Guyana’s international relations and the migration of Venezuelans into Guyana; an economic overview, which dealt with the traditional sectors, the emerging oil and gas sector and Guyana’s pursuit of a “green” agenda and environmental conservation.

The visit represented the largest team of U.S. congressmen to ever visit Guyana.

Ex-USVI senator convicted of wire fraud

A former United States Virgin Islands senator has been convicted of wire fraud and theft of U.S. federal program funds for “taking money ostensibly being used to fund a historical research project.”

The U.S. Department of Justice said Wayne A.G. James, 56, of St. Croix, was convicted of two counts of wire fraud and one count of theft of federal program funds. Sentencing has been set for Dec. 20.

Haiti names new P.M.

President Jovenel Moïse has named Jean Henry Céant Haiti’s new prime minister, ending pro-

longed consultation with the leadership of the two branches of the French Caribbean nation’s Parliament.

Céant, 62, replaces Jack Guy Lafontant, who resigned following recent protest action after the government announced an increase in petroleum products. The measure was later withdrawn.



Céant

- Compiled from various sources.



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BATTLE LINES: It's Gillum versus DeSantis for Florida governor

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

back at the “monkey” reference.

“It’s disgusting that Ron DeSantis is launching his general election campaign with racist dog whistles,” she noted in a statement to the Huff Post news agency.

Several other prominent Democrats blasted DeSantis. A few Republicans called his statement unfortunate. The statement stoked the fire of resentment many hold towards Trump, who owns homes and businesses in Florida, and won the state in the presidential race.

However, there has been no Democratic governor of Florida since the 1990s.

PROBES

Meanwhile, City Hall in Tallahassee is under probe for corruption by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The investigation is focused on a friend of Gillum, but the

Democratic nominee said he’s clear of any wrongdoing.

DeSantis is expected to hammer Gillum on his record as mayor, a post he’s held since 2014, and his proposed policies if he became governor.

“(Gillum) is way, way too liberal for the state of Florida,” said DeSantis, who vowed to focus on illegal immigration, jobs, education and the environment. His campaign has accused Gillum of wanting open borders.

However, like Gillum, DeSantis may be confronted by a federal probe. His link to Trump could become a major talking point as the investigation into the president’s conduct, especially over the involvement by Russia in the 2016 election, by Special U.S. Justice Counsel Robert Mueller, continues.

- Various sources contributed to this story.



CRACKDOWN: U.S. threatens citizens, residents with deportation

GORDON WILLIAMS

Caribbean nationals, many who for decades have legally made the United States their home, may be among targets of a government crackdown which could force them, including some naturalized citizens and permanent residents, to leave the U.S.

Several recent reports indicate the administration of President Donald Trump has ratcheted up efforts to punish immigration violations, which could lead to deportation of thousands from the U.S.

The government's new, aggressive push includes making it more difficult for persons already living legally in the U.S. to become permanent residents or "green card" holders, if they, for example, are found to have benefitted from certain public assistance programs, including Social Security Insurance, food stamps and "Obamacare", the health insurance program implemented under the Affordable Care Act signed into law by previous President Barack Obama.

The crackdown has received some public backlash. Caribbean American

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, whose parents are from Jamaica, blasted Trump and his immigration policy.

"In the White House, we have a man who is not of sound mind, morals or values who has made decisions and implemented policies that have been a full frontal assault, an attack on our humanity and our livelihoods – decisions that benefit only those at the top, the one percent like himself," said Clarke, during a recent address in her Brooklyn, New York constituency.

She highlighted "the Trump Administration's racist 'zero tolerance' policy of criminally prosecuting migrants at the southern border" and moves to shutter programs which benefit Caribbean immigrants, such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA), Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act and Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

PLAN

According to **NBC News** sources, parts of the Trump administration's immigration policy are being orchestrated



U.S. authorities are clamping down on some immigrants.

by Stephen Miller, a senior adviser to the president. Miller's plan, which was still being finalized early last month, reportedly doesn't need to be sanctioned by the U.S. Congress. It is designed "to limit the number of migrants who obtain legal status in the U.S. each year," the news agency reported last month.

According to some estimates the policy, which if implemented would be a massive shift in U.S. enforcement conduct, could affect more than 20 million immigrants, including Caribbean nationals, especially those in low paying jobs who require government assistance.

However, potential "green card" holders are not the only non-U.S.-born residents attracting heightened scrutiny. Naturalized U.S. citizens who are suspected of obtaining that status through fraudulent methods, such as failing to report their

involvement in a crime, terrorism, using fake identities or engaging in staged marriages when applying for citizenship, have also become targets.

More than 21 million people are believed to be naturalized U.S. citizens, thousands from the Caribbean. While the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that persons could not be stripped of naturalized U.S. citizenship if found guilty of minor deceptions committed during application, the Trump administration is aggressively stepping up attempts to find those who would be eligible to be stripped of their citizenship

status.

CAMPAIGN

The **New York Times** reported in July that "Since President Trump took office, the number of denaturalization cases has been growing, part of a campaign of aggressive immigration enforcement that now promises to include even the most protected class of legal immigrants: naturalized citizens."

The Times also reported that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), which deals with citizenship and residency applications, is "opening a new office to investigate thousands of potential denaturalization cases involving identity fraud, even as it approves more new citizenship applications than before. USCIS also intends to refer more cases for possible deportation, and to give citizenship adjudicating officers more discretion to deny applications they consider ineligible or incomplete."

Caribbean nationals are already being affected by the Trump immigration crackdown. NBC News reported, for exam-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Caribbean think-tank revives push for Garvey's U.S. pardon

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Institute for Caribbean Studies (ICS) here has resurrected the notion of a United States presidential pardon for Jamaica's first National Hero Marcus Mosiah Garvey.

The think-tank is conducting a poll on whether U.S. President Donald Trump should pardon Garvey.

In a message posted on its website last month, the ICS gives viewers two options regarding the proposed pardon: "Option 1: Ask President Trump for a pardon (this assumes Garvey did something wrong); or option 2: hold out for exoneration (this assumes Garvey did nothing wrong)."

In Jan. 2017, Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, who had taken the lead, with 17 other members of the U.S. House of Representatives, in calling on then outgoing President Barack Obama to posthumously pardon Garvey, had expressed disappointment with Obama's non-action. On his last day in office, Obama granted commutation of sentence to 330 individuals, with Garvey not included. Garvey was convicted for mail fraud in the U.S. in 1923.

"While the exoneration and/or pardon of the Right



Garvey

Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey remains elusive, unresolved and unfinished business, we must continue our education and organizing efforts in the pursuit justice for the legendary icon," said Clarke, daughter of Jamaican immigrants, who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC).

PERSECUTION

She said it was important that "we build upon the efforts waged over the years, most recently in pursuit of a presidential pardon, and that we continue to maintain and elevate the integrity of" Garvey's contributions to American history.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

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FEATURE



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Soccer fraternity, friends bid farewell to Jamaican 'Mutt' Scott in U.S.

PATRICK SMIKLE

Soccer players he competed with at various levels of the game, including Jamaica's national team, remember Delroy "Mutt" Scott as not just an outstanding defender and midfielder, but a motivator.

Those Scott coached remember him not just as an exemplary teacher, but also a disciplinarian and mentor.

His friends claim he could seem reserved and introspective. When you got to know him, however, "he was a lot of fun and easy to talk to."

Scott's brother Alton "Monty" Jackson remembers him as being a kind, caring sibling, and extremely protective of his three children - Mark, Karen and Andrea (who predeceased him).

Those were some of the opinions heard from the pulpit

at the Merrell United Methodist Church in Lauderdale Lakes, Florida, and later at the nearby Garden Restaurant, when Scott's family, friends and former teammates gathered to both bury and to praise him.

Scott succumbed to cancer on July 24.

STANDOUT

At Jamaica's club level, Scott was one of the founding players at Cavalier, put together by legendary manager/coach Leighton Duncan in 1962. To hear New York-based sports radio commentator John Melbourne tell it, this was the most colorful team to emerge on the Jamaican soccer scene since the YMCA of



Mutt and Pele

Sydney Bartlett and Henry Largie, two of the best players in the history of the Jamaican game.

Scott stood out. According to Melbourne, who played for Cavalier, undergirding the team's success was a solid defensive line led by Scott.

"He was the player who marshaled the defense," Melbourne said. "And as the captain, he brought out the best in the other players."

PLAYER/COACH

When Duncan retired, Scott became Cavalier's player/coach. His talent and leadership skills were also exhibited at the national level. He played for and captained a successful Jamaica national team from 1965 to 1969, emerging, some aficionados insist, as one of the country's greatest players.

He coached Cavalier's under-19 team to victory and guided young players at several high schools, including



Scott

Calabar, St. Jago and Tivoli Comprehensive. In 1976, Tivoli won the Manning Cup, the championship for Jamaica's Corporate Area high schools.

In 1968, when the North American Soccer League (NASL) was launched in the United States, Scott was one of the first Jamaicans recruited. He played four seasons with the Atlanta Chiefs, matching skills with international stars such as Brazil's Pelé and Carlos Alberto, and Germany's Franz Beckenbauer.

Before he migrated to the U.S., Scott worked as a sales representative at Sports and Games store in Kingston. He is also survived by his partner Lena Williams and five grandchildren.

Patrick Smikle is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.

For more sports, turn to page 19.



Caribbean think-tank revives push for Garvey's U.S. pardon

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

"His is a case of unjustified persecution that continues to cry out for justice," said Clarke, stating that Garvey was "widely viewed as the Father of the 20th Century Civil Rights Movement."

"His leadership and intellectual contributions inspired the movements for independence in Africa and the Caribbean," Clarke said.

"However, it was the establishment of the UNIA (United Negro Improvement Association) here in the United States and its affiliates throughout African Diaspora nations that drew the ire of the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) under J. Edgar

Hoover, and that ultimately led to the frivolous charges, prosecution and persecution against him."

Clarke said it was "all in an attempt to displace" Garvey "from the positive role he played in advancing the civil and human rights in American history."

INSPIRATION

In their letter to Obama, the congressional representatives noted that Garvey, who was born in St. Ann's Bay, had "inspired generations of leaders, from the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to President Nelson Mandela."

"His efforts to organize the African Diaspora across nations in support of freedom

and self-determination were critical to the movements for independence in Africa and the Caribbean and to the Civil Rights Movement here in the United States," the letter states.

Despite that legacy, members of Congress lamented that Garvey "has never been fully exonerated from racially-motivated charges of mail fraud."

"Recognizing that prosecutors and the government mishandled the case, President Calvin Coolidge commuted the sentence at the earliest possible opportunity," the letter notes.

The congressional representatives' call came on the heels of a similar one, issued in Nov. 2017, by Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, vice chancellor

of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

"Marcus Garvey was the victim of trumped up charges orchestrated by the late J. Edgar Hoover, the famously anti-black director of the US's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)," explained Sir Hilary in a statement, calling on Obama, "himself the victim of racist campaigns to de-legitimize his presidency, to exonerate Garvey before he leaves office."

A global petition campaign demanding that Garvey's U.S. federal record be expunged had generated tens of thousands of signatures.

- Edited from CMC.



CRACKDOWN: U.S. threatens citizens, residents with deportation

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

ple, that Haitian-born Louis Charles, a U.S. permanent resident, was denied citizenship after it was discovered he used public benefits to help his daughter, who is disabled. Charles, a nursing assistant working in Massachusetts, admitted to entering the U.S. in 1989 with a fraudulent passport. He said he told U.S. authorities about it and was granted a waiver, which allowed him to become a permanent resident in 2011. However, the 55-year-old's citizenship application was rejected last September.

"I was devastated," Charles told NBC News. "And I'm not sure exactly why they did it. I did everything they asked me to."

He said the USCIS informed him it will review his case, especially the waiver. He

could lose permanent residence and be deported.

VULNERABLE

Haitians in the U.S. were already feeling vulnerable under the Trump administration, which announced the end of TPS for thousands who survived the devastating 2010 earthquake in the French Caribbean nation.

Meanwhile, criminal records of thousands of immigrants, including naturalized citizens, are still being checked, according to reports. Findings from those could lead to more people being stripped of legal immigration status.

Miller's plan has been sent to the White House Office of Management and Budget, NBC reported. That is normally recognized among the last stages before implementation.

More than a million immigrants became "green card"

holders in fiscal year 2016, the final one under the Obama administration. Over 753,060 became naturalized U.S. citizens during that period, according to USCIS.

The number of successful permanent resident approvals have plummeted under the Trump administration, reportedly set to decline by up to 20 percent during the first quarter of fiscal year 2018. The rate of naturalizing U.S. citizens has remained relatively stable, although the Times reported USCIS "expect naturalization numbers to rise in the latter half of the year based on previous trends."

The USCIS has claimed it evaluates all applications for naturalization "fairly" and has not changed the way it has evaluated applications. However, according to a statement by Michael Bars, a USCIS spokesperson, "We

reject the false and inaccurate claims of those who would rather the U.S. turn a blind eye to cases of illegal immigration, fraud, human trafficking, gang activity and drug proliferation at the expense of public safety, the integrity of our laws and their faithful execution."

That, according to Bars, means "an eligible applicant must have been properly admitted for permanent residence in order to become a U.S. citizen."

Under an immigration law dating back to the 1800s, defining "public charge", the U.S. can reject persons wishing to become citizens or residents if they are deemed a burden to the state.

- Multiple sources contributed to this report.



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Vol. 29, Number 10 • SEPT. 2018

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President's next targets are students, overstays

MIAMI, Florida - The administration of United States President Donald Trump is pushing full steam ahead with its immigration policy to essentially "clean house".

Now the target appears to be students whose visas may have ended, as well as those who came in on a visitor's visa and stayed on.



FELICIA J. PERSAUD

Recently, the Department of Homeland Security, (DHS) released its "Fiscal Year 2017 Entry/Exit Overstay Report", which identified all overstays, including of foreign-born students, from across the world. The number was around 700,000, with 45,000 alone from the Caribbean region, according to a **News Americas** report.

The message seems clear – this was the next target in the Trump-Stephen Miller xenophobic plan. Miller is a Trump adviser.

On Aug. 9, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published a revised final policy memorandum related to unlawful presence of student visa holders. Under the memorandum, effective Aug. 9, 2018, holders of the F-1 and M-1 visas, or non-immigration student visas, which allow international students to study and live full-time in the U.S., were essentially put on notice.

ROUND UP

Any F-1 or M-1 visa holder who falls out of status will now have a five-month window to re-apply and get it reinstated. However, if the reinstatement application is importunately denied, the students will be considered an undocumented on the day after the denial and could be rounded up and

deported if they don't leave voluntarily.

The USCIS statement warned "it is incumbent on the non-immigrant to voluntarily leave the United States to avoid accruing more unlawful presence."

The administration will also apply the same rules to student holders of the J-1 or exchange visitor visa. The Department of State, which administers the program, will also need to reinstate the visa or if its denied, the J-1 visa holder will be considered undocumented and should leave the country or be deportable.

Francis Cissna, new USCIS director, also reiterated the Trump administration's mantra when it comes to "illegal immigration".

"USCIS remains dedicated to protecting the integrity of our nation's immigration system and ensuring the faithful execution of our laws. People who overstay or violate the terms of their visas should not remain in the United States," Cissna added in the statement.

"Foreign students who are no longer properly enrolled in school are violating the terms of their student visa and should be held accountable."

SPEEDING UP

The announcement came as U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Aug. 16 sought to speed up the deportation of illegal immigrants, telling immigration judges they should only postpone cases in removal proceedings "for good cause shown."

Sessions, in an interim order that was criticized by some lawyers, said the "good cause" standard "limits the discretion of immigration judges and prohibits them from granting continuances for any reason or no reason at all."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

Caribbean American congresswoman condemns Trump's 'full frontal assault' on U.S. immigrants



Trump is on the attack.

NEW YORK – Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke has launched a scathing attack on United States President Donald J. Trump's immigration policies, describing them as ongoing assaults on immigrants.

"In the White House, we have a man who is not of sound mind, morals or values who has made decisions and implemented policies that have been a full frontal assault, an attack on our humanity and our livelihoods – decisions that benefit only those at the top, the one percent like himself," said Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, in delivering the keynote address during a recent awards ceremony at the Jamaican-owned Spiritual Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York.

"Brooklyn continues to be in the bulls-eye of his administration's most cruel and inhumane attacks," added the representative for the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn.

"The immigrant community is no exception. I have constituents who are 'green card' holders from the very countries listed on Donald Trump's immoral and unjust Muslim ban."

She said family separation at the U.S.-Mexican border is "a direct result of the Trump

administration's racist 'zero tolerance' policy of criminally prosecuting migrants at the southern border."

WORST

Clarke said this particular policy "calls to mind the worst of our history, including the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, our refusal to grant safety to Jewish refugees during the Holocaust and the treatment of slaves during the Middle Passage from Africa, and centuries of chattel slavery and forced and imposed state sanctioned segregation."

The congresswoman lamented that children are now being shipped all over the country, including to New York City, "where there were at least 239 children being detained just a few miles from my district and thousands of miles away from their caregivers."

Clarke also said the Trump administration is "trying to undermine" the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) program, "which puts 800,000 'Dreamers' at risk of deportation." She said there are currently over 42,000 "Dreamers" in New York, most of which are enrolled in school or employed.

'DREAMERS'

The Development, Relief,

and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate, in 2001, as a bipartisan bill. Its aim was to provide a means for undocumented Caribbean and other immigrants who arrived in the U.S. as children to gain a pathway to permanent legal status.

Individuals who would have qualified under the DREAM Act are often referred to as "Dreamers".

But Clarke said Trump "hasn't stopped there," referring to the U.S. president's "full frontal" attacks on immigrants.

"But be not dismayed," Clarke said. "We, the people, have great power. We can defeat this racist, xenophobic, sexist, and frankly un-American agenda."

"As a community, we must utilize our resources to strengthen our families and stay in the communities we have chosen, labored in, and call home, regardless of what policies are coming out of the White House," she added.

"Let us remember the thousands of Brooklyn residents who desire a path to citizenship but whose livelihoods are being threatened by the Trump administration and not take this opportunity for granted."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

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VIEWPOINT



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OUT OF OPTIONS: The choice is whether to forgive, but never forget

So many persons dismiss forgiveness as their only course of action - an eye for an eye, revenge, a meal best eaten cold, karmic justice, meting out their own measure of justice - is actually more popular than forgiveness.

Maybe forgiveness is out of the reach of most humans. Perhaps it's

not written in our DNA and only saints of old or weaklings believe in the old maxim of turning the other cheek.

To err is human, to forgive is divine, it has been said. But it didn't say that to forgive is human too. It is human nature to retaliate, to hit back, to shove when shoved, to mete out violence and wreak havoc on anyone who offends you.

To be wronged is to be



TONY ROBINSON



dissed and that's unforgivable. But could you forgive and what offense against you would you forgive?

DOUBLE STANDARD

A man is married for years, only to discover that his wife was carrying on behind his back. Could he find it in his heart to forgive her if she was contrite, remorseful, penitent?

"Hell no, for she would just do it again. So I could never forgive her" was the consensus of most men. And yet, more

women than men found it in their hearts to forgive their men for doing the same thing.

"I know that he had an outside child with that woman, but I forgave him and even took in the child to live with us."

Maybe men see the act of forgiveness as a sign

of weakness.

"If I forgive her now, she'll just laugh at me behind my back and take me for a fool."

And yet, it may take more courage to forgive rather than impart vengeful justice on the person. Maybe the world has outlived and outgrown the act of forgiveness and now sees it as the action of a fool.

NOT HUMAN

Now, I ask you, which person is going to forgive someone who keeps on wronging them

over and over again?

Countries do not forgive, with the result being war. Societies do not forgive, with the result being eternal conflict. Families do not forgive, resulting in everlasting feuds. Even the state does not forgive or there wouldn't be prisons and executions.

So clearly, forgiveness is not a part of the human mosaic. How do you forgive someone who takes the life of a loved one? How do you forgive a man who rapes a child? How do you forgive someone who robs you of everything and how do you forgive a grave betrayal?

It's so different when it hits home. Could you forgive anyone who did any of those things to you or your loved ones? Wouldn't you love to see him suffer for the evil that he did and not wait on divine intervention punish him?

LITTLE THINGS

Maybe some things can be forgiven, like the little things.

"Okay, you borrowed five

grand and didn't pay me back, I forgive you."

But what if he borrowed \$500,000 under the pretext that he was ill and refused to pay you back? Could you forgive him?

So it's clearly a question of incremental degrees. The little things can be forgiven, but the big issues have to be dealt with.

Forgiveness is not a natural human trait and when people say "I can forgive but I can never forget" what they really mean is "I can never forgive."

So next time you are robbed, deceived, cheated on, betrayed, don't think of retaliation, but think more of forgiveness. Is it really possible or merely an ideal that we think that we should strive for? Will the meek really inherit the Earth? Is forgiveness only for the weak? Or should we forgive but don't forget?

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CARIB Comments

• "In the White House, we have a man who is not of sound mind, morals or values who has made decisions and implemented policies that have been a full frontal assault, an attack on our humanity and our livelihoods" – Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette Clarke expresses her concerns about U.S. President Donald Trump.

• "Freedom is choice and if you don't have a choice you don't have freedom, and if you can't afford and you cannot



access it, you don't have a choice. Justice must be affordable and swift" – Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley discusses access to the Caribbean Court of Justice.



• "This bill, for sure, is a direct attack on a serious, and surely unintended flaw in our criminal justice system that contributed to New York State's unenviable reputation as a leader in convicting innocent men and women, often times due to the unscrupulous misconduct of a handful of bad prosecutors across our great state, who cared more about getting a conviction rather than justice" – Caribbean-born New York state Assemblyman Nick Perry welcomes legislation that will create a commission to investigate

complaints of misconduct by county prosecutors.

"Despite our achievements in tackling the HIV epidemic, we are not done. Everyone in society must know and understand and believe that HIV is not a death sentence and, further, understand that persons living with HIV who have suppressed virus due to treatment are not infectious" – Professor Clive Landis, chairperson of the Caribbean Cytometry and Analytical Society, believes there is inadequate understanding among the general public about how successful treatment can also reduce sexual transmission.



- Compiled from various sources.



Caribbean American congresswoman condemns Trump's 'full frontal assault'...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

"We must make citizenship a priority," Clarke urged. "We must get out to vote.

This may sound cliché, but the elections in November may be some of the most important elections in our lifetime. There's so much at

stake," she said.

- Edited from CMC.



President's next targets are students, overstay

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

But unlike the federal judiciary system, U.S. immigration courts fall under the Department of Justice and the attorney general can intervene. Sessions, obviously under the direction of the White House, is trying to find every loophole in the law to enforce the "zero tolerance"

policy being pushed by the administration.

Blinded by xenophobia, the administration is kicking out people who can contribute to the development of this country after being educated here at U.S. universities for at least five years.

How dumb and short-sighted is this?

No need to answer that.

Just read El Trumpeto's Twitter feed.

- Edited from News Americas. Felicia J. Persaud is CMO at Hard Beat Communications, Inc., which owns the brands NewsAmericasNow, CaribPRWire and InvestCaribbeanNow.





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Grenadian gets CTO's 'Distinguished Caribbean Citizen Award'



Riley, right, presents the award to Hastick.

NEW YORK – The Barbados-based Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) has conferred its "Distinguished Caribbean Citizen Award" on Dr. Roy A. Hastick, founder, president and chief executive officer of the Brooklyn, New York-based Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI).

The CTO said its Secretary General Hugh Riley bestowed the honor during a recent CACCI small business development power breakfast meeting in Brooklyn.

"The Caribbean Tourism Organization recognizes Dr. Roy Hastick for his longstanding commitment to representing the interests of Caribbean people at the New York City and state levels," Riley said.

"His steadfast endeavors to strengthen commercial links between the Caribbean and the region's diaspora are particularly worthy of commendation," he added. "And for that reason, we have bestowed the 'Distinguished Caribbean Citizen Award' on him."

'THRILLED'

The Grenadian-born Hastick said he was "excited and thrilled" to receive CTO special award, describing CTO as "a prestigious association that promotes tourism in the region throughout the world."

"For over 33 years, CACCI has been promoting trade, investment and tourism between the United States and the Caribbean, as well as helping thousands of small businesses in the New York metropolitan area survive and thrive," Hastick said.

CTO said Hastick, who

migrated to the U.S. in 1972, worked for several years as an administrator, community advocate, entrepreneur and newspaper publisher. Through his involvement with organizations in Brooklyn, "Hastick recognized the need for the Caribbean community to unify in support of one another in order to improve the quality of life for everyone," CTO said.

Because of his work in the small business community, CTO noted that Hastick was appointed honorary Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams.

CTO said Hastick has helped grow the New York statewide membership organization to over 1,700 and provides expertise in providing business assistance to small start-up and emerging businesses in business planning, financing, procurement, preparation for certification and business expansion, tourism, and export/import opportunities.

- Edited from CMC.



United announces historic flights to St. Kitts/Nevis

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts – For the first time in St. Kitts and Nevis's history, United Airlines will fly a second weekly nonstop flight from its New York hub at Newark Liberty International Airport, complementing the carrier's existing Saturday service.

Minister of Tourism, International Trade, Industry and Commerce Lindsay Grant said last month that the addition of a mid-week flight marks yet another historic first for the twin-island federation this year.

"I could not be more pleased to welcome this additional service, which increases the available options for visitors and Diaspora to get to island during peak travel season from the New York metropolitan area, which is our primary source market for arrivals," he said.

ROUND-TRIP

For the Jan. 9, 2019 to Mar. 6, 2019 period, United will operate a total of nine scheduled round-trip, non-stop Wednesday flights between



More flights to meet demand.

Newark and St. Kitts.

Racquel Brown, chief executive officer of the St. Kitts Tourism Authority, said having the Wednesday flight gives travelers more flexibility in their vacation planning and provides increased capacity during the period when demand is highest.

"This is a testament to the success of our work to grow North American airlift from key gateways in order to accommodate new hotel developments and existing hotel product upgrades," she said.

United first began serving St. Kitts in Dec. 2015 and continues to operate non-stop Saturday flights from Newark.

- Edited from CMC.



Delta steps up, American cuts flights to Caribbean

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti – Haiti welcomed the announcement by Delta Air Lines that it planned to increase the number of daily flight to the French-speaking Caribbean community (CARICOM) country after another United States-based airline said it was reducing its flights.

American Airlines has decided to reduce the number of daily flights to Haiti from six to four. That puts an end to flights connecting Toussaint Louverture International Airport of Port-au-Prince to those of New York-JFK and Fort Lauderdale.

However, Delta Air Lines said it plans to open three new routes and an additional daily flight to the Caribbean from

New York.

Delta's new routes will include daily non-stop flights between JFK and Kingston, Jamaica, as well as the new weekly service on Saturday to Antigua and Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

In addition, Delta is expanding its service to The Bahamas with a second daily flight between JFK and Nassau. The expanded Nassau service will be launched on Oct. 1 and the new Kingston flights will begin operating Dec. 20.

The flights from Antigua and Haiti will be launched on Dec. 22, 2018.

- Edited from CMC.



U.S. relaxes Cuba travel

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States Department of State has toned down its travel advisory for Cuba.

The State Department last month reduced its advisory to the Spanish-speaking Caribbean island from Level 3, "reconsider travel", to Level 2, "exercise increased caution."

According to the State Department ratings, Level 1

means "exercise normal precautions" and Level 4 means "do not travel".

Under the revised travel advisory, the State Department urged Americans to "exercise increased caution in Cuba due to attacks targeting U.S. Embassy Havana employees resulting in the drawdown of embassy staff."



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Cayman Islands exports iguana meat to U.S.



Green iguana

GEORGE TOWN, Cayman Islands – The Cayman Islands has shipped over 200 pounds of iguana meat to the United States, a move that the private sector says could help in tackling the problems posed by the invasive species.

The meat of the green iguana was recently shipped by the company Spinion Limited

to its subsidiary in the U.S., to be processed for sale online.

“Currently the export is for human consumption,” said Maria Yapelli, a founder of the business.

“Once we get the dog food and dog treats going, we will be able to take field-slaughtered animals; then we would be talking about 2,000 pounds per week.”

INVESTMENT

She said processing iguana meat for dog food would require investment in research

and development, but could be an avenue for the Cayman Islands to make a profit by getting rid of its unwanted iguanas.

She said the company aims to start on a small scale, targeting a niche food market in the U.S., and hopes to generate a strong enough customer base to ship 500 pounds of iguana each week – equivalent to about 200 iguanas.

Environmental officials say 14,000 iguanas need to be killed in order to make an impact on the invasive species.

- Edited from CMC.



Cassava pone - a tasty Caribbean dessert treat

Pone is considered a dessert and is a tasty treat made from cassava root or yuca.

You can purchase cassava pone at many Caribbean American and Caribbean bakeries, but making your own is always best. Here's our recipe for cassava pone:

Ingredients

- 3 cups grated cassava or yuca root
- 2 cups grated coconut
- 1½ cup sugar
- ¼ lb. seedless raisins

- 2 eggs
- 3 cups milk
- ¼ lb. shortening (melted)
- ½ teaspoon orange peel
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence
- 1½ teaspoon mixed spice

Method

Mix the dry ingredients together in a large bowl.

In a separate bowl, combine the melted shortening, milk, beaten eggs and essence.

Add the wet ingredients to the dry and mix well.

Pour the mixture into a well-greased shallow baking pan or dish. Glaze with sugar and water.

Bake at 300°F for 90 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean.

Remove from oven and allow to cool for 10 minutes, then slice into squares and enjoy.

- Edited from News Americas.



Sweet, refreshing tamarind drink

With the heat stifling in many United States cities, here's a recipe for a refreshing Caribbean beverage that is also healthy and a good liver cleanser – the tamarind drink.

Ingredients

- 2 cups tamarind pulp
- 2 quarts boiling water
- 2 tablespoons sugar (to taste)
- honey (optional)
- 2 tablespoons lime juice (to taste) (optional)

Method

In a teakettle bring water to a boil. Place the tamarind pulp in a heatproof mixing bowl or baking dish. Add lime juice if using it.

Pour boiling water over the tamarind. Stir in sugar and/or honey. Cover and allow to stand several hours or overnight.



Tamarind drink

Strain the tamarind water through a strainer or clean cloth. Dilute with more water and add more sugar or honey to taste. Refrigerate and serve over ice.

As variations, a few spoonfuls of cinnamon, vanilla, or grated ginger may be combined with the tamarind pulp before the water is added.

- Edited from News Americas.



Tennis serves Jamaican taste

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) recently showcased the island's decadent flavors at the 19th annual “Citi Taste of Tennis” event in New York City.

The event was a precursor to the U.S. Tennis Open and this year the event brought together the world's best tennis players and featured signature cuisine

from the city's leading chefs.

Among those who attended were U.S. tennis star Sloane Stephens, who joined Jamaican Chef Wenford P. Simpson. The chef served an array of specialties, including an open-faced jerk chicken slider with pickled red cabbage and mango chutney.



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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION: Foreign filmmakers flock to Jamaica

Overseas-based filmmakers are focusing their lens on Jamaica and the Caribbean nation's economy is basking in the benefits from the lights, camera and action.

According to Renée Robinson, film commissioner at the Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO), the local film industry has contributed a record J\$1.2 billion (one Jamaica dollar = US\$0.008 cents) in expenditure to the local economy during fiscal year 2017 to 2018.

That's up from J\$745 million the previous year.

According to Robinson, it was the first time the figure had exceeded JA\$1 billion and the expenditure is the value of the budget that international productions spend in Jamaica.

"So, this would be to hire cast, crew, drivers, rental of equipment, anything that is part of the production process that is being spent in Jamaica," she added.

According to Robinson,



Robinson

124 international film productions took place in Jamaica over the period and generated 2,781 jobs.

She said the commission is able to differentiate and segment the types of productions that are shot on the island by tracking through the film registration process.

GENRES

"Documentary productions led the genres, with 35 documentaries filmed in Jamaica over the period, up from 17 in the previous year, and TV productions followed with 24, up from 15 in 2016/17," Robinson said.

Three feature films were shot on the island: "Yardie", directed by Idris Elba; "Like Father" and "The Intent 2". For the first time, a webisode production was also filmed in Jamaica.

"We also had some high-

profile productions filmed in Jamaica over the period, including 'Caribbean's Next Top Model', and we were fortunate enough to shoot the entire season," said Robinson.

"We also shot an episode of 'The Amazing Race Israel' and an episode of 'Marvel's Luke Cage'," she added.

Robinson said other prominent productions included the "Pretty Bird" music video for Beyoncé and Jay-Z; "Perfect Places" music video by Lorde and "Candice Patton" by America's Next Top Model celebrity guest judge Kelly Cutrone.

"So, there has been quite a bit of activity in the local film industry as we tracked the various international productions that come into the island and the local personnel and services that they utilize for their projects," said Robinson.

- Edited from CMC.



Cuban town declared a 'World Craft City'

HAVANA, Cuba – The town of Trinidad, located to the south-east of here, has been declared a "World Craft City" after an extensive evaluation process by the World Crafts Council.

Roberto Ponce, director of the Cuban Fund for Cultural Property at Sancti Spiritus, confirmed the news recently. He said in June the third village founded by the Spaniards on the island was visited by members of the World Council from 11 countries.

Ponce said the Trinitarian creations have crossed the city's borders and today projects works of the world-famous Santander family or the workshop of Yudit Vidal Faife, among threads, wings and brushes, clay, paintings and fabric.

During the World Crafts Council's visit to the southern municipality of the city last month, Uruguayan Alberto de Betolaza, president of the organization for Latin America, said that craftwork of the past is kept alive in the Caribbean Museum City.

These expressions of handicrafts are the livelihoods of several generations of Trinitarians, most who have drawn on the knowledge of collectives that have been trained to teach the traditions, he added.

Cities in China, India, Iran, Chile and Denmark also hold a similar status.

- Edited from CMC.



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Caribbean Today

Caribbean carnival heats up

The carnival spirit has hit the Caribbean diaspora and multiple events marking the celebration are coming up.

Here is a listing of some remaining events:

- **Sept. 11** - Hackney Caribbean Carnival in Hackney, England. Includes a parade and street arts.
- **Oct. 5**

Miami Jouvert Cooler Fete at Soca Kingdom Arena, 318 N.W. 23rd St., Miami, Florida.

Carnival Fete at Krave Lounge, 4519 N. Pine Island Road, Sunrise, Florida.

- **Oct. 6** - D'Ultimate Day Fete,

Central Broward Regional Park in Lauderhill, Florida.

- **Oct. 7** - Miami Broward One Caribbean Carnival at the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition, Inc., University Park in South Florida.

A junior carnival is scheduled for **Sept. 29** and a steel pan competition on Oct. 5. The j'ouvert celebration is on Oct. 6.

***Oct. 8** - Foam Wet Fete Party, America's Backyard, 200 W. Broward Blvd., downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida.



Chronixx, Shabba, Kes shine at first 'D.C. World Reggae Festival' ...But Toots and the Maytals' performance cut short

GORDON WILLIAMS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The first "D.C. World Reggae Festival" delivered a promising launch here last month, despite a controversial let-down at the final act.

With an estimated crowd of more than 5,000 fans in attendance at the RFK Stadium parking lot basking in buoyant vibes and near-perfect weather, the festival boasted some of Caribbean music's top talent, including rising star Chronixx, dancehall legend Shabba Ranks and soca boss Kes the Band.

However, fans who stayed for show closer Toots and the Maytals left disappointed when time constraints restricted the reggae/ska legend to a couple songs.

Off the stage, the festival, organized to celebrate Jamaica's 56th anniversary of Independence, also captured the seductive charm of Caribbean culture, including vendors selling food, artifacts and clothing. Yet it was the music which demanded most attention on a day forecast to bring rain, but instead showed excitement on a lively



Shabba

crowd, which jumped and waved flags under the intoxicating spell of Caribbean rhythms.

'TO THE WORLD'

"Love it up and spread it around the world!" band-leader Kes urged as fans revelled in the pulsating island beat. "... Caribbean music to the world!"

An entertaining - but

drawn out - musical clash of deejays exchanging verbal volleys over recorded reggae classics followed the soca sample. It served as the prelude to one of the festival's biggest attractions. Enter Shabba Ranks, who hit the stage around 7:50 p.m. and, for close to an hour, unleashed a rough and rugged barrage of classic dancehall hits.

Kicking off with his now famous self-introduction - "Ah me, man! Big dutty stinking Shabba!" - the veteran showered the crowd with hits such as "X Rated", "Trailer Load A Girls" and "Ting-A-Ling". He also combined with guest artistes to resurrect monster duets of the past, including "Telephone Love" and "Mr. Lover Man".

Not surprising, Shabba spiced his set with a tinge of "slackness" as well. Backed by the Ruff Kutt band, the deejay waded into temptation territory, shouting "Love punaany bad!"

"If you love pum pum, seh pum pum!" Shabba belted to the crowd, which responded: "Pum pum!"

However, he skillfully avoided calamity.



Toots

"Don't get too dirty," Shabba reminded himself aloud. "No, no, no ... don't slack it up."

The crowd lapped it up.

CHRONIXX

Shabba departed, leading to the highly anticipated entrance of Chronixx.

The 25-year-old, who proudly stakes his roots in Spanish Town, Jamaica, is a clear banner bearer for reggae and dancehall's latest generation. He didn't disappoint. Backed by Zinc Fence band, Chronixx took the audience on a stimulating journey of roots and culture, belting out hits as the crowd eagerly sang along.

Among the biggest

favorites was "Ain't No Giving In". "Likes", a tribute to a genre's finest, past and present, also drew wild cheers.

"We fi put the music first, dancehall," Chronixx said.

The crowd roared its approval. His act featured a bright cameo by his father. With reggae's old school master up next, Chronixx made clear he too looked forward to Toots and the Maytals.

But those who remained were left wanting. Toots, dressed in a colorful outfit of red, black, green and gold, hit the stage roughly 10 minutes before 11 p.m. - festival cut off time. He was barely into his set, with classics like "Monkey Man" and "54-46", when the show abruptly ended.

ISSUES

Festival presenters claimed Toots was originally scheduled to perform much earlier. The plan, they said, was for Toots to represent the 1960s-70s era, followed by Shabba of the 1980s-90s, culminating with current star Chronixx.

The dispute upset the running order as Shabba and Chronixx declined to change their set times to earlier, according to promoter Omar Stephenson, and Toots remained in his bus at the time he was reportedly scheduled to take the stage.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

'Write It Now' highlights Caribbean's impact on literature

PATRICK SMIKLE

This month, four Caribbean American authors will facilitate a writers' workshop in South Florida.

"Write It Now" will be held on Sept. 8 at the South Regional Broward College Library in Pembroke Pines.

Geoffrey Philp, Christine Craig, Malachi Smith and Judith Faloon-Reid are scheduled to host workshops, which are being sponsored by the Louise Bennett-Coverley Heritage Council (named for the Jamaican folklorist and poet), in association with Friends of the South Regional Broward College Library.

"The workshop is designed to help writers experience a sense of community with other Caribbean writers," Smith, a dub poet who will host a workshop on performance poetry, told Caribbean Today. "We want to help them move their work up to another level. Help them identify, correct and improve on any weaknesses in their work."

"Write It Now" will also include a poetry workshop conducted by Craig, whose published works include "All Things Bright" and "Quadrille for Tigers". Another workshop will deal with fiction.



Smith

Philp, who has published novels, short stories and children books, will facilitate. A fourth workshop on independent publishing will be conducted by Faloon-Reid, a poet, screenwriter and filmmaker.

IMPACT

The impact of Caribbean writers on the world's literary landscape is nothing new. For almost 100 years novelists, playwrights, poets, historians, sociologists, teachers and politicians with Caribbean roots have chronicled and critiqued the experiences of the region's people at home and abroad, to local and international acclaim.

The late St. Lucian Derek Walcott and Trinidadian V. S. Naipaul won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1992 and 2001, respectively. In 2015

Jamaican Marlon James was awarded the Man Booker Prize to add to the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction.

Earlier this year Lorna Goodison, another Jamaican, added Yale University's Windham-Campbell Prize to the Commonwealth Poetry Prize for the Americas, which she won in 1986.

DOUBTS

However, the contributions from Caribbean writers have not always been greeted with acclaim. Often their critiques of the status quo have been seen as threats to those who hold economic and political power.

Still, Eric Williams's "Capitalism and Slavery", published in 1944, was described as a ground-breaking work, explaining how the system of forced labor by enslaved Africans built the economies of Europe and the United States. Marcus Garvey's poetry was integral to his efforts to promote black consciousness.

In books like "The Wretched of the Earth" and "Black Skins White Masks", published in the 1950s,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

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T&T's V.S. Naipaul, Nobel Prize winner, dies

V.S. Naipaul, the Trinidadian-born Nobel Prize-winning novelist, died last month in Britain. He was 85.

Naipaul, who was born Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul in 1932 near Port of Spain and lived mostly in Britain, won the

Nobel Prize in Literature in 2001.

The Swedish Academy, which grants the award, said the writer "In a vigilant style, transforms rage into precision and allows events to speak with their own inherent irony."



Naipaul

The judges called Naipaul's 1987 work "The Enigma of Arrival" a "masterpiece".

Naipaul published his first book, "The Mystic Masseur", in 1957. He also wrote "Miguel Street", "A House for Mr. Biswas", "The Loss of El Dorado", which offers a colonial history of Trinidad, and "Beyond Belief: Islamic Excursions among the Converted Peoples", which focused on the eastern regions of the Islamic world.

Naipaul, who traced his heritage to Hindu immigrants from India, moved west to England at age 18. He attended Oxford University.

HONORS

While he was well known for the Nobel Prize, Naipaul received other major literary honors as well, including the

Booker Prize in 1971. In 2010 Queen Elizabeth II knighted Naipaul.

The Caribbean community (CARICOM) mourned Naipaul's death. CARICOM Secretary General Irwin LaRocque described him as a prolific author of both fiction and non-fiction, whose works "elicited much critical acclaim

and earned him many literary awards. He was acknowledged as a master in the use of language."

"His unsparing critique of post-colonial societies across the globe was the basis of much of his work and provoked a great deal of thought and discussion."



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BRIEFS

Miss Miami Broward Carnival Pageant

Miss Miami Broward Carnival Pageant, the official pageant of Miami Broward Carnival, is seeking young women between ages five and 25 to be a part of this year's competition. The pageant will be held **Sept. 22**.

For contestant applications, visit www.missmiamibroward.org.

Mr. Vegas album launch

Jamaican dancehall artiste Mr. Vegas will celebrate the release of his latest album – and 20 years of music – on **Sept. 15** in South Florida.

The launch is set for Krave, 4519 N. Pine Island Rd., Sunrise. Doors open at 9 p.m.

West Indian American Day Carnival boss dies

William R. "Bill" Howard, president of the West Indian American Day

Carnival Parade, which takes place on Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway on Labor Day, died early last month. He was 75.

Caribbean shows set for Atlanta area

Atlanta and its suburbs in Georgia will host a few shows with Caribbean flavor in the coming weeks.

On **Sept. 22**, the "Legends in Concert" will be staged at Lithonia City Park, Lithonia. Among the scheduled headliners are Lt. Stitchie, Richie Stephens and J.C. Lodge.

On **Oct. 13**, "Let's Go Dancin'" will be held at the Atlanta Stone Ridge Event Center. Fab 5 band, Gem Myers and Migraine are among the scheduled performers.

Compiled from various sources.



'Write It Now' highlights Caribbean's impact on literature

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

Martinican psychiatrist and philosopher Frantz Fanon explored the dehumanizing effects of colonialism on Caribbean people. The works of Aimé Césaire, also from Martinique, continued that discourse.

Jamaican-born poet and novelist Claude McKay (1890-1948) is often called "the first voice of the Harlem Renaissance, protesting the social evils that plagued black people in the U.S."

The backlash, however, didn't slow the expansion of the Caribbean literary landscape. Among the well-known

writers are Antigua's Jamaica Kincaid; Barbados's Edward Kamau Brathwaite, Hilary Beckles and George Lamming; Haiti's Edwidge Danticat; Guyana's Fred D'Aguir; Jamaica's Opal Palmer Adisa, Lillian Allen, Colin Channer, Christine Craig, Kwame Dawes, Pamela Mordecai, Orlando Patterson, Geoffrey Philp, Leone Ross, Heather Russell and Donna Weir-Soley; and St. Lucia's Vladimir Lucien.

Patrick Smikle is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



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Chronixx, Shabba, Kes shine at first 'D.C. World Reggae Festival'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

"Toots basically demanded that he wanted to close the show because he was the biggest act," Stephenson explained to **Caribbean Today** on Aug. 21. "... He was originally scheduled to come on at 6:25 p.m. That really caused a lot of issues."

Caribbean Today was unable to obtain Toots's version of events up to press

time.

Yet, Stephenson said he was pleased with festival's launch and is already booking acts for next year's show. Despite that late hiccup, it appears, a promising future may yet await the "D.C. World Reggae Festival".

- Photographs by Gordon Williams.



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Caribbean, African faith leaders to meet in D.C.

The Caribbean and African Faith-based Leadership Conference's (CAFBLC) fifth annual leadership conference and awards will be held this month in Washington, D.C.

The event, to be held in collaboration with the 48th annual legislative conferences of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Convention, is scheduled for **Sept. 12-16** at the Walter E. Convention Center in Mount

Vernon.

The theme for the event is "United in Faith for Economic Development".

This gala will honor the accomplishments of leaders in community development who primarily operate from a faith-based perspective, targeting major issues including religious liberty, civil right, humanitarian concerns, social justice and economic development.

The CBC's conference (ALC) is among the leading policy conferences in the United States that focuses on issues impacting people of African heritage and the global black community.

For more information, visit www.cafblc.com.



Lauderdale Lakes celebrates Caribbean Emancipation Day

On Aug. 1, the annual Caribbean Emancipation Day/Juneteenth Infusion celebration was held at the Church of the Atonement in Lauderdale Lakes, Florida.

The two-part event was hosted by the Greater Caribbean American Cultural Coalition in association with the city's Mayor Hazelle Rogers.

Part one involved students discussing the similarities between Caribbean Emancipation and Juneteenth. During a reception held later, awards and recognition were presented by various dignitaries.

The Caribbean Emancipation Day holiday marks the end of slavery in the

British Empire. It is a public holiday in several Caribbean countries and, although the holiday commemorates events that took place on Aug. 1, 1834, it may be celebrated on different days depending on the country.

Rogers took the opportunity to discuss both important holiday with some of the city's youth.

Haitian American stalwart dies in South Florida

The Haitian American community lost a giant contributor recently.

Daniel Fils-Aimé, founder of the Haitian American Historical Society, has died. He was 76.

In the Haitian American community, Fils-Aimé was

recognized for his community service, especially to the residents of Miami-Dade County in Florida.

Fils-Aimé, who passed on July 31, was known for his role in helping to erect the "Chasseurs Volontaires de St. Dominique" monument in

Savannah, Georgia.

He co-founded the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida and was founder/president of the Miami Minibus Transportation Service Inc.



BRIEFS

T&T Independence thanksgiving service

The Trinidad and Tobago community at Christ the King Catholic Church in Perrine, Florida will hold a thanksgiving mass and healing service on **Sept. 16 and 17** to celebrate the twin island republic's 56th Independence.

Father Raymond Francis from Trinidad will be the celebrant.

T&T's Independence Day was Aug. 31.

For more information, call **305-898-7682**.

FANM plans D.C. trip to support TPS

The Family Action Network Movement (FANM) has arranged a trip to Washington, D.C. this month, part of a campaign it says opposes the administration of United States President Donald Trump's efforts to separate families.

Participants in the trip, scheduled for **Sept. 12-13**, will bring families to meet members of the U.S. Congress. Temporary protected status is being revoked for more than 350,000 recipients.

According to Haitian-born Marleine Bastien, FANM's executive director: "We must act promptly to protect the basic rights of due process of immigrants."

Miami's 'Hispanic Heritage Festival'

Miami-Dade County will hold its 12th annual "Hispanic Heritage Festival" from **1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 15** at Country Village Park in Miami, Florida.

For more information, call Jordan's office at **305-474-3011**.

BOMA awards

Agencies, businesses and individuals who have made positive impact in the black community will be honored this month at the 2018 BOMA Awards in South Florida.

The event, scheduled for **11:30 a.m. Sept. 20**, will be held at the Hilton Miami Airport hotel.

For more information, visit www.bomalliance.com.

Caribbean Bar gala

The Caribbean Bar Association will hold its 22nd annual scholarship and awards gala on **Oct. 13** at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort.

Among the scheduled honorees are John Kozyak, president's award; Broward County Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness, civic advocate award; White and Case LLP, corporate citizen award; and Nadege Green, community guardian angel.

For more information, visit www.caribbeanbar.org.



OFANA PLANTS POSITIVE SEED



The Ole Farmers Association North America Inc. (OFANA) recently held its 12th annual general meeting in Orlando, Florida. OFANA underlined its commitment to Jamaica's agriculture industry, national food security and to positioning the College of Agriculture Science and Education (CASE) as the premier tertiary agriculture college in the Caribbean and the world. Among those who attended the recent meeting were OFANA President Norma Jarrett, at podium and, from left, Renford Williams, Donna Bredwood, Jennifer Petgrave, Jamaica's Minister of Education Ruel Reid, Doreen Danvers, Jurist Taylor, Peterson Warburton, Wendell Codner and Dr. Derrick Deslandes. Reid was the keynote speaker at the event. OFANA said it donated \$100,000 in one year for plant tissue culture lab at CASE.

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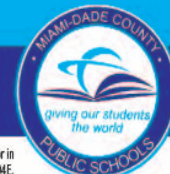
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Jamaica to play Ecuador in soccer friendly in U.S.

GORDON WILLIAMS

A Caribbean nation will be featured in a friendly soccer international to be played in the United States this month.

Jamaica will face Ecuador on Sept. 7 at the Red Bulls Stadium in Harrison, New Jersey.

The match, according to representatives of the Jamaica Football Federation (JFF), is aimed at helping to prepare the Reggae Boyz for the CONCACAF Nations League and 2019 Gold Cup.

Two days after the Ecuador clash, Jamaica will open its Nations League schedule at home. According to JFF President Michael Ricketts, Jamaica has a plan to deal with the awkward scheduling.

MANEUVER

"We will be able to maneuver, in an effective way, so that we have a different squad playing on the seventh (of September) and another squad

playing on the ninth," Ricketts said

According to Ricketts, Jamaica "will be bringing in some overseas players," including from England and North America, especially for the Ecuador game.

However, he added, "the core of our team will be made up, essentially, of our home-based players," for the Nations League.

Numerous Jamaica national players are members of professional clubs in the U.S., including Major League Soccer and United Soccer Leagues.



Ricketts

COST

Jamaica senior men's team manager Roy Simpson told **Caribbean Today** that the JFF's motive for playing in the U.S. is based primarily on economic

considerations.

"The federation has always indicated it's more cost effective to play away from home," explained Simpson.

He added that Ecuador made the offer to play in the U.S. The large communities which support both teams was also a determining factor in deciding the venue.

"There's a strong Caribbean community in the U.S., along with a strong Spanish-speaking community," Simpson said.

The game is being played during an official window provided for international teams by soccer's governing body FIFA, which allows players selected for "friendlies" to become available for release from their club to represent their country.

Kickoff time for Jamaica v. Ecuador is 8 p.m. E.T. The two nations have played before in New Jersey, drawing 0-0 in a friendly international on Aug. 12, 2009.



Caribbean and swimmers of color."

In a later interview with **SportsMax.TV**, Atkinson, who recently won three gold and two bronze medals at the CAC Games in Colombia, said she never believed she would have achieved such a feat.

"I have been told no matter the dream, God will use you and make it incredible," she said.



Atkinson

"So proud and humbled to be considered, much less actually be awarded a CD," she said on social media last month.

"Swimming is blossoming once again in Jamaica and I look forward to being a part of the wave of athletes that are paving a path for the

KNOCK DEM DOWN!



- Photograph by © CWI Media/Randy Brooks of Brooks Latouche Photography

West Indies players Ashley Nurse, right, and captain Carlos Braithwaite celebrate the fall of a wicket as the Caribbean cricket team faced Bangladesh in a Twenty20 International at Central Broward Regional Park in Lauderhill, Florida recently.

BRIEFS

CPL shines in South Florida

Some of the region's top cricket talent was on show last month during Caribbean Premier League (CPL) games played at Central Broward Regional Park Stadium in South Florida.

The Guyana Amazon Warriors beat Jamaica Tallawahs, which also lost to Trinbago Knight Riders and Barbados Tridents at the venue.

U.S. market right for CPL ~ DaSilva

Paul DaSilva, former president of the Nassau New York Cricket Association, wants to see more Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) games played in the United States.

DaSilva, a Guyanese-born American citizen, said he believes the CPL had the power to increase the sport's popularity in the U.S. and called for more stadiums to be built in other areas where there is a strong West Indian community.

Bolt starts pro soccer career

Jamaican Usain Bolt, who retired from track after dominating the sprints, has vowed to prove detractors wrong as he starts a new career in professional soccer.

The 32-year-old last month signed a contract with Australian A-League club Central Coast Mariners.

"People will say a lot of things about me, but I'll prove them wrong," said Bolt.

Caribbean missing from soccer's top 50

Caribbean nations failed to crack the top 50 best soccer teams globally, according to FIFA, the game's governing body, in its first release of rankings following the 2018 World Cup.

Jamaica is the region's highest rated nation at 54.

- Compiled from various sources.



Florida-based swimmer to get Jamaica national honor

KINGSTON, Jamaica – South Florida-based swimmer Alia Atkinson, the first black woman to win a world championship title, will be honored with the order of distinction in the rank of commander on Jamaica's National Heroes' Day, Oct. 15.

Atkinson, 29, won the 100-meter butterfly for Jamaica at the 2014 Short Course Championships in Doha. The Olympian said she was honored to be receiving a national award.

CELEBRATION TIME



Haiti's Nerille Mondesir, left, celebrates with a teammate after scoring Haiti's first goal at soccer's 2018 women's Under-20 World Cup last month in France. Haiti, the lone Caribbean nation in tournament, put on a competitive show, but three narrow defeats led to early elimination from the tournament. Haiti lost 2-1 to China in the opening group game on Aug. 6. That was followed by a 1-0 defeat by Nigeria on Aug. 9. Haiti was beaten by Germany 3-2 in its final group game on Aug. 13. The losses meant Haiti failed to earn a point at the tournament. Germany and Nigeria advanced from the quarter final round from Group D.

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